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# WASHINGTON PAPERS.

JUNE. 1775.

ON the 15 June, 1775, Congress having resolved "That a general be appointed to command all the continental forces raised or to be raised for the defence of American liberty," proceeded to a choice, and the ballots being taken, George Washington, esq., was unanimously elected.

On the day following the president informed Mr. Washington that Congress had unanimously made choice of him to be general and commander in chief of the American forces and requested he would accept that employment, to which Mr. W., standing in his place, answered :

MR. PRESIDENT,

Though I am truly sensible of the high honor done me in this appointment, yet I feel great distress from a consciousness that my abilities and military experience may not be equal to the extensive and important trust. However, as the Congress desire it, I will enter upon the momentous duty and exert every power I possess in the service and for support of the glorious cause. I beg they will accept my most cordial thanks for this distinguished testimony of their approbation. But lest some unlucky event should happen unfavourable to my reputation, I beg it may be remembered by every gentleman in the room, that I this day declare with the utmost sincerity I do not think myself equal to the command I am honored with.

As to pay, Sir, I beg leave to assure the Congress, that as no pecuniary consideration could have tempted me to accept this arduous employment at the expense of my domestic ease and happiness, I do not wish to make any profit from it. I will keep an exact account of my expenses. Those I doubt not they will discharge, and that is all I desire."

As soon as he could get himself in readiness he set out for Boston to take upon him the command of the army before that town. (*MS. not. of Christopher Thomas, prefixed to Vol. I of Washington's Letters in the Records of the Continental Congress.*)

\*[On June 15, 1775, Congress resolved to appoint a general to "command all the Continental forces, raised or to be raised, for the defence of American liberty" and fixed his pay at 700 dollars per month. George Washington was unanimously elected general on the same day, and on the 16th formally accepted in the speech already given. R. H. Lee, E. Rutledge and John Adams were appointed a committee to draught a commission and instructions for the general, and it was from their report, rendered on the 17th, and debated in Congress that the commission—printed on the next page—was framed. The wording is somewhat different from that printed in the *Journals of Congress*, June 17, 1775.—W. C. F.]

## In Congress.

The delegates of the United Colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts bay, Rhode island, Connecticut, New-York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New Castle, Kent & Sussex on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina

To George Washington Esquire

We reposing especial trust and confidence in your patriotism, conduct and fidelity Do by these presents constitute and appoint you to be **General and Commander in Chief** of the army of the United Colonies and of all the forces raised or to be raised by them and of all others who shall voluntary offer their service and join the said army for the defence of American Liberty and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof. And you are hereby vested with full power and authority to act as you shall think for the good and welfare of the service.

And we do hereby strictly charge and require all officers and soldiers under your command to be obedient to your orders & diligent in the exercise of their several duties.

And we do also enjoin and require you to be careful in executing the great trust reposed in you, by causing strict discipline and order to be observed in the army and that the soldiers are duly exercised and provided with all convenient necessaries.

And you are to regulate your conduct in every respect by the rules and discipline of war (as herewith given you) and punctually to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the said united colonies or a committee of Congress for that purpose appointed.

This Commission to continue in force until revoked by this or a future Congress.

By order of the Congress

Dated, Philadelphia Jun. 19th 1775.

JOHN HANCOCK President

Attest Chas. THOMSON Secr.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6. f. 106.

FROM GENERAL GATES.

TRAVELLER'S REST 22th June 1775.

DEAR GENERAL

Last night I was Honoured by the receipt of your Obliging Letter of 17th Instant. I shall Obey your Commands with all possible expedition, & hope to be in Philadelphia Thursday next, & wish earnestly to find you there. I must take the Liberty to entreat it of you, not to leave the Congress, until you are provided not only with all the Powers, but all the Means, their power can bestow. if it is indispensably necessary you should leave Philadelphia before I get there, I hope to find with Colonel Harrison, your positive, & particular Commands, in regard to any business you may leave unsettled behind you. the request for the Riffle Men was well received in this province, and in Maryland, Major Stevenson commands one of the Companys from hence, & I believe Cap.<sup>n</sup> Morgan the other, both excellent for the Service. Col Creasup told me on Monday morning that his Son had eighty Riffle Men ready to march, those go for one of the Companys from Maryland. Immediately upon the Arrival of your Express, I dispatched your packets to your brother, & Col: Stephen. if their Answers don't come in half an hour, I will bring them with me.

My Gratefull Thanks are most Respectfully due to the Congress, for the very Handsome manner in which they conferred their Commission.

I will not intrude more upon that Time, which is now so precious to you, only to assure you I will not lose a moment in paying you my personal attendance. with the greatest respect for your Character, and the sincerest attachment to your person, I am

Dear General. Your most Faithful, & Obedient Humble Servant,  
HORATIO GATES.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 89. f. 12.

FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.\*

PHVLADELPHIA, June 22, 1775.

SIR

In Complyance with your Request We have considered of what you proposed to us, and are obliged to give you our Sentiments, very briefly, and in great Haste.

In general, Sir, there will be three Committees, either of a Congress, or of an House of Representatives, which are, and will be composed of our best Men ; such, whose Judgment and Integrity, may be most rely'd on ; the Committee on the State of the Province, the Committee of Safety, and the Committee of Supplies.

But least this should be too general, We beg leave to mention particularly Mess<sup>rs</sup> Bowdoin, Teller, Dexter, Greenleaf, Derby, Pitts, Otis of the late

\*In MS. of John Adams.

late Council, Hon. John Winthrop Esq. L.L.D., Joseph Hawley Esq of Northampton, James Warren Esq<sup>r</sup> of Plymouth, Coll Palmer of Braintree, Coll Orne and Elbridge Gerry Esq<sup>r</sup> of Marblehead, Dr Warren, Church, Mr John Pitts all of Boston, Dr Langdon President of Harvard Colledge, and Dr Chauncey and Dr Cooper of Boston, Coll Förster of Brookfield.

The Advice and Recommendations of these Gentlemen, and of some others whom they may introduce to your Acquaintance may be depended on.

With great Sincerity, we wish you an agreeable Journey and a glorious Campaign; and are with much esteem and Respect, Sir, your most obedient servants.

SAMUEL ADAMS

JOHN HANCOCK

JOHN ADAMS

THOMAS CUSHING

ROB TREAT PAINE

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. I, f. 1; Transcript A, Vol. I, f. 1; Continental Congress, No. 152, Vol. I, f. 3; No. 169, Vol. I, f. 1a.*

TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

NEW YORK June 24<sup>th</sup> [25] 1775.

GENTLEMEN,

The Rain on Friday afternoon and Saturday the advice of several Gentlemen of the Jerseys and this city, by no means to cross Hudsons River at the lower Ferry and some other occurrences too trivial to mention (which happened on the Road) prevented my arrival at this place until the afternoon of this day. In the morning, after giving General Schuyler such orders, as, from the result of my Inquiry into matters here, appear necessary, I shall set out on my Journey to the Camp at Boston and shall proceed with all the dispatch in my Power. Powder is so essential an Article that I cannot help again repeating the necessity of a supply. The Camp at Boston, from the best accounts I can get from thence, is but very poorly supplied. At this place they have scarce any. how they are provided in General Wooster's Camp I have not been able yet to learn.

Governor Tryon is arrived and General Schuyler directed to advise you of the line of conduct he moves in. I fear it will not be very favourable to the American cause. I have only to add that I am with the greatest respect and regard.

*Continental Congress, No. 152, Vol. 1, f. 5; No. 169, Vol. 1, f. 2.*

TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

NEW YORK SUNDAY 24 [25] June 1775 5 o'Clock P M  
SIR

Upon my Arrival here this Afternoon I was inform'd that an Express was in Town from the provincial Camp in Massachusetts Bay, and having seen among other papers in his possession a Letter directed to you as president of the Congress I have taken the Liberty to open it.

I was induced to take that Liberty by several Gentlemen of New York who were anxious to know the particulars of the Affair of the 17th Inst and agreeable to the Orders of many members of the Congress who judged it necessary that I should avail myself of the best Information in the Course of my Journey.

You will find Sir by that Letter a great want of Powder in the provincial army; which I sincerely hope the Congress will supply as speedily & as effectually as in their Power.

One thousand pounds in W<sup>t</sup> were sent to the Camp at Cambridge three days ago from this City; which has left this Place almost destitute of that necessary article; there being at this Time from the best Information not more than four Bbs of powder in the City of N York.

I propose to sett off for the provincial Camp to morrow and will use all possible Dispatch to join the Forces there.

Please to make my Compliments to the Gentlemen the Congress.

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*Letters from Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. 1. f. 2.*

TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

NEW YORK, 25 June, 1775.

SIR:

You are to take upon you the command of all the troops destined for the New York department, and see that the orders of the Continental Congress are carried into execution, with as much precision and exactness as possible.

For

For your better government therein, you are herewith furnished with a copy of the instructions given to me by that honorable body. Such parts as are within the line of your duty, you will please to pay particular attention to. Delay no time in occupying the several posts, recommended by the Provincial Congress of this colony, and putting them in a fit posture to answer the end designed: neither delay any time in securing the stores, which are, or ought to have been, removed from this city by order of the Continental Congress.

Keep a watchful eye upon Gov<sup>r</sup> Tryon, and, if you find him attempting directly or indirectly any measures inimical to the common cause, use every means in your power to frustrate his designs. It is not in my power, at this time, to point out the mode by which this end is to be accomplished; but if forcible measures are judged necessary, (respecting the person of the Governor,) I should have no difficulty in ordering of it if the Continental Congress was not sitting; but as this is the case, the seizing governors quite a new (?) thing, and of exceeding great importance, I must refer you to that body for direction. In case the Governor should make any move towards increasing the strength of the Tory party, or in arming them against the cause we are embarked in. In like manner, watch the movements of the Indian agent, (Colonel Guy Johnston,) and prevent, as far as you can, the effect of his influence to our prejudice with the Indians. Obtain the best information you can of the temper & disposition of these people, and also of the Canadians, that a proper line may be mark'd out to conciliate their good opinion, or facilitate any future operation.

The posts on Lake Champlain &c you will please to have properly supplied with provisions & ammunition; & this I am persuaded you will aim at doing on the best terms, to prevent our good cause from sinking under a heavy load of expense. You will be pleased, also, to make regular returns to me, and to the Continental Congress, once a month, and oftener as occurrences may require, of the forces under your command, of your provisions, stores, &c. and give me the earliest advices of every piece of intelligence, which you shall

shall judge of importance to be speedily known. Your own good sense must govern you in all matters not particularly pointed out, as I do not wish to circumscribe you within narrow limits.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 89. f. 2.*

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

PHILADELPHIA June 25<sup>th</sup> 1775

SIR,

By Direction of the Congress I now Transmitt you severall Resolutions pass'd yesterday by which you will observe they have Directed Major General Schuyler to Examine into the State of the Forts at Ticonderoga and Crown Point, and of the Troops Stationed there, as also to Enquire into the Disposition of the Canadians and Indians. you will likewise find they have Directed him to Take or Destroy all Vessells, Boats or Floating Batteries prepar'd by Governor Carlton on or near the Waters of the Lakes, and to Take possession of St Johns & Montreal if he finds it practicable, and not Disagreeable to the Canadians. The Alteration of the Sentiments of Congress since your Departure relative to making an Impression into Canada was occasion'd by a Letter they receiv'd from the Committee of Albany, a copy of which you have Inclos'd, they gave their Directions upon these important matters directly to Major General Schuyler, as he would be near the Forts above mention'd, and as their being sent to you would occasion such Delay as might prove Detrimental to the Service.

I send you the remainder of the Commissions Signed. should you have occasion for more, please to acquaint me, & they shall be immediately Transmitted you.

Brig<sup>r</sup> Gen<sup>l</sup>. Gates not yet arrived in the City. I Expect him to morrow, and shall Deliver him his Commission, and promote his Joining you as soon as possible. Inclosed is a letter from him.

With very best wishes for every personal happiness, and Success in all your undertakings, I have the Honor to be,

Sir,

Your most Obed Hume Servt,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

[ENCLOSURE NO. 1.]

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 109. f. 1.*

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO CONGRESS.

ALBANY COMMITTEE CHAMBER,

June 21st, 1775.

GENTS

Mr Dirik Swart a member of this board, who is just returned from Crown point, brings the following intelligence; that one Mr Hay who lives about 40 miles up lake Champlain came down to Crown point, who told Coll. Arnold and others that he had been to Montreal for some flour; that Govr. Carlton had him seized and confined for several days; that by the interposition of the English Merchants of that place, he received liberty to return home, and that the merchants who procured him the pass from the Lieutenant Governoeur desired him to go down to Crown point and Ticonderoga with all speed and communicate to the commander of those fortresses that the French Caughnewagie Indians had taken up the hatchet, But that they refused to go out upon any scouts until nine of their men who were then out, returned; and that Governoeur Carlton was giving them presents daily.

We are very sorry to inform you that from a number of corroborating circumstances, we have but too much reason to believe the above information to be true, and more especially as the troops which amount to about six hundred men, suffer no persons, coming up the lake to pass St. Johns if they can avoid it, where they are building floating batteries and boats; Mr Swart also acquaint us that Mr Hay said, that Govr. Carlton had asked the English merchants to take up arms against the *Yankees*, to make use of his own phraseology, that the Merchants refused, upon which he told them he would set the town on fire; which the merchants said he was welcome to do, and added they could carry as much fire as himself—Mr Hay also desired Mr Swart, if he should happen to meet Mr. Price, he should request him not to proceed, as the English merchants in Canada conceived it unsafe for him.

The forces above are in no proper state of defence principally owing to the scarcity of powder, of which article we have not yet been able to send up more; with the supply we have received from New York, than three hundred and fifty pounds; which quantity is altogether insufficient to answer the purposes intended and of little service in case of an attack—We can farther inform you, this city is not half supplied; nor have the frontier inhabitants either powder or arms; for which, applications have been, and daily are making to us—and as we have no prospect of any farther supply from New York, we beg to be assisted if possible from the lower Governments with all the dispatch possible.

We should also desire that the command at the forts might be settled—Coll. Hinman we understood would have taken the command, but by his appointment from Govr Trumble, his orders are only to reinforce the Garrisons and command his regiment; upon which Coll. Arnold refused to resign; We therefore conceived it highly necessary that a matter of such importance should be settled with all speed. The above we are also informed by Mr. Stewart, who was present and heard each read the others instructions.

We thought it our indispensible duty to acquaint you of these matters and therefore send them you by express—We are Gent.

Your very humble servants

By order of the Committee

SAML STRINGER, Chairman P T

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

[ENCLOSURE NO. 2.]

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 89. f. 1.*

IN CONGRESS JUNE 27, 1775.

*Resolved*, That Major General P. Schuyler be directed to repair as soon as conveniently he can to the posts of Ticonderoga and Crown point to examine into the state thereof, and of the troops now stationed there & how they are supplied with provision and necessary stores—into the state also of the sloop and other navigation of the lakes—also to obtain the best intelligence he can of the disposition of the Canadians & Indians of Canada—That he confer with Coll. Hinman & Coll. Arnold on the subject of Coll. Arnolds letter to this Congress and report as soon as possible, the state of the whole as near as it can be ascertained to this Congress—And that he give orders for the necessary preparation of boats and stores for securing to the United Colonies the command of those waters adjacent to Crown point & Ticonderoga—

*Resolved*, That as Govr Carlton is making preparations to invade these colonies & is instigating the Indian Nations to take up the Hatchet against them, Major Genl. Schuyler do exert his utmost power to destroy or take all vessels, boats or floating batteries preparing by said Governor or by his order on or near the waters of the lakes

*Resolved*, That if Genl. Schuyler finds it practicable and that it will not be disagreeable to the Canadians, he do immediately take possession of St Johns, Montreal and pursue any other measures in Canada, which may have a tendency to promote the peace and security of these colonies—

*Resolved*, That if Genl. Schuyler have occasion for a larger quantity of ready money & ammunition for carrying on such expedition, than he can in convenient time procure from the provincial convention of the colony of New York, he do in such case apply to the Govr. of Connecticut for such supplies, as may be necessary & can be furnished by that colony; and that Governor Trumbull be desired to furnish such supplies and that this Congress will make provision for re-imburseing the same

A true copy from the minutes

CHAS THOMSON sec

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6. f. 114.*

FROM GENERAL SCHUYLER.

SATURDAY, July 1<sup>st</sup>. 1775.

SIR

I do myself the Honor to advise your Excellency that the Connecticut Troops, that arrived in this Colony under the Command of Brigadier Wooster are encamped within two miles of this Town. I have not yet had a Return of their numbers as soon as my Order for that Purpose is complied with I shall transmit it.

Inclose You Sir a Copy of the Resolutions of the Hon: the Continental Congress of the 27<sup>th</sup> ult. I shall prepare with all possible Dispatch to carry into Execution their Views and propose leaving this for Albany in my way to Ticonderoga on Monday next.

Eight Transports with Troops, that have been at Sandy Hook since Thursday last are to sail from thence to Day. Reports prevail that the men on Board have mutinied, that they refused to go to Boston. of this however I have not been able to get any Certainty. Hand Bills have been introduced amongst them to encourage them to quit on the first favorable Opportunity a service which must render them odious to all honest Men.

Governor Tryon's Conduct has hitherto been unexceptionable, and from the Information I have been able to procure, some of which I put great Confidence

Confidence in, I have reason to believe that the Line he has chalked out for himself is such as we would wish he should hold.

I believe the Commissions for this Department were already forwarded to You before my Letter (In obedience to Your order) to the Congress on that Subject arrived. If they are to be sent back, I beg of You to order them to be directed to the President of the Provincial Convention here.

No Preparation has as yet been made to occupy a Post in the Highlands, by what I can learn the Provincial Convention have Doubts about the Propriety (which they have or mean to state to Congress) arising from the Want of Ammunition, to maintain the Post after it shall be compleated.

A ship from London in five weeks advises that the Remonstrance sent by the Assembly of this Colony to the House of Commons has been rejected by them as containing Sentiments derogatory to the Rights of Parliament. This manœvre has already had salutary effects, many whose Sentiments are friendly to America, but who differed as to the Mode of procuring Redress, now publickly declare that they will no longer sit idle Spectators of their Country's Wrongs.

That Success and Happiness equal to the Merit & Virtue of my General may crown all his Operations is the Wish of every honest American by none more sincerely than me.

I am Your Excellency's Most Obed<sup>t</sup>  
& Most Hum<sup>c</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

PH: SCHUYLER.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6. f. 122.

FROM THE YORKTOWN COMMITTEE.

YORKTOWN 1 July 1775.

GENTLEMEN.

We had the honor of receiving your favor of the 15 inst. inclosing a Resolve of the Hon: Continental Congress of the 14th inst.

We immediately summoned the committee of this county and laid before them your letter &c. The committee proceeded to the choice of officers fit to be recommended to the congress to command the company of Rifle men to be raised, and appointed six commissioners to provide necessaries for them. Every resolve past in committee with the greatest unanimity, and the gentleman of York town after the meeting dispersed themselves thro' the county and assisted the officers in recruiting.

The spirit of the people on this occasion gave the committee infinite pleasure. The men seemed actuated with the greatest zeal and tho't themselves honored in having their names enrolled among the sons of Liberty who are to fight for their country and in defence of their dearest rights and privileges. The only uneasiness they feel is that they are not at this moment at the scene of action. From the spirit of the soldiers we entertain the most flattering hopes that they will prove serviceable to the cause of Liberty, and reflect honor on this country.

The principal people here have caught the spirit of the Hon: Congress, and in their small circle have done every thing in their power to animate their neighbors to stand forth in this day of despotism, and resist the arbitrary and unjust measures of parliament with all the power which Heaven has given them. And we have the pleasure to inform you that their labors

labors have not been in vain, and that the county is ready to strain every nerve to put into execution any measures which the Congress may judge necessary to our common defence.

The officers we take the liberty to recommend to you are Capt Michael Dowdle, Lieuts. Henry Miller, John Dill, John Watson. They are men whose courage we have the highest opinion of. The company including officers and soldiers are      beyond the number fixed for this county, and as Genl Gates tho't it improper to discharge any we have sent them all.

We request the favor of you that proper care be taken that none are draughted out of their company into another. This is the request of the inhabitants of this county, many of them having their dearest friends engaged in the service, and would not by any means have them taken from their present officers.

We hope no alteration will be made in the officers. The Capt. has behaved very well on this occasion, and has done all in his power by advancing money &c to forward the important common cause.

Mr Miller is known to some of you gentlemen; the other officers are men of worth and property. They have all wives and families and are entitled to the warmest thanks of their country.

The commissioners appointed to provide necessaries for the men, will forward the accounts as soon as they possibly can.

We are, Gentlemen, Yr most humble servs,

JAS SMITH

GEO IRVIN

JOHN KEAN

JOSEPH DONALDSON

THOS HARTLEY

MICHL HAHN

The company began their march the nearest road to Boston this day.

[ ORDER. ]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 3rd 1775

Parole, *Lookout.*

Counter Sign, *Sharp.*

The Colonels or commanding Officers of each Regt: are ordered forthwith, to make two Returns of the number of men in their respective Regiments, distinguishing such as are sick, wounded or absent on furlough: And also the quantity of ammunition each Regmt: now has.

It appearing by the Report of Henry Woods, the Officer of the main guard, that one William Alfred is confin'd for taking two horses, belonging to some Persons in Connecticut; but that he has made Satisfaction to the injured parties, who request that they may not be longer detain'd as witnesses: It is ordered that he be discharged, and after receiving a severe Reprimand, be turned out of camp.

AFTER ORDERS. 4 O'CLOCK P. M.

It is order'd that Col Glovers Regiment be ready this evening, with all their Accoutrements, to march at a minutes warning to support General Folsam of the New Hampshire forces, in case his Lines should be attack'd.

It is also order'd, that Col Prescott's Regiment equip themselves, march this evening and take Possession of the Woods leading to Leechmore's point, and in case of an Attack, then Col. Glover's Regiment to march immediately to their support.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6. f. 148.

BROOK WATSON TO N. V. PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

LAKE CHAMPLAIN near St JOHNS 4th July 1775

SIR

By the general assistance which your Letter to the Officers in the Service of the Colonies procured me, I am now so near Montreal that I expect to get there this Evening; therefore embrace the opportunity of the returning Boats to make you my thanks for your kind attention to me and my friends, and I pray you Sir to make my warmest acknowledgements to your Provincial Congress for the obliging Letter they kindly favoured me with, and for the pleasing expressions in my Regard which it contained! a sincere friend to America and its rights I truly am, and as such cannot help expressing my uneasiness at the general Spirit which I have observed among the Colonie Troops quartered at Forts George, Ticonderoga, and Crown Point. they talk and act as if it was fully determined they should soon march into the Province of Quebec. surely my good Sir this cannot be the intention of the general Congress. if it is not immediate payns should be taken to suppress the dangerous Idea, or it may soon produce the most dangerous consequence. Should the Colonies send their Troops into that Province, or should they go without Orders, the Canadians and the Indians their Friends, will naturally fall upon your back Settlements with Fire and Sword. then with the King's Troops on one side, and the Canadians and Indians on the other, what have the Colonists to expect but Slaughter. For God's sake exert every faculty to prevent so great an Evil.

I know the Body of Gentlemen who have so properly chose you for their President, are greatly alarmed at the deplorable situation of affairs between Great Britain and her Colonies. America must look forward with the greatest Anxiety, and rejoice in any prudent Plan for the restoring of Harmony and the security of property. I would to God I had a Head to contrive, and a pen to persuade what might produce so desirable an Event, for the Credit and Comfort of all their future Moments depend upon it, but while Liberty or Slavery in their greatest extream is the alternative held out by the violent and designing on this side the water, and submission or destruction the language of the other, what hopes have the people but in the moderation, Wisdom and Justice of the general Congress: In their address to his Majesty of last Year they wisely declare "that they ask but for Peace Liberty and Safety: that they wished not a diminution of the prerogative, nor did they solicit for any new right in their favour, that his royal Authority over them, and their Connection with Great Britain they would always carefully and Zealously endeavour to support and maintain." This declaration breathed the Spirits of good subjects, valuing their just rights too much to abuse them. but these Sentiments were not constitutionally conveyed to the royal ear.

That Government are ready to receive any fair propositions which may be constitutionally offered, cannot be doubted after we consider the Minister's declaration in parliament, "That if the Dispute in which the Americans have engaged goes to the whole of their Authority, they can enter into no negotiation, they can meet no compromise, but if it be only as to the suspension of the exercise of their Rights, or as to the mode of laying or raising taxes for a Contribution towards the common Defence it might be just and wise to meet any fair proposition which might come from any Province or Colony."

This

This declaration, I humbly conceive, clearly points out the line of Conduct which the General Congress ought to pursue, as it must be the wish of that Assembly to carry matters to an extrem, by which the whole Empire must suffer and America be drove to the last Distress. would they but state their real Grievances with Temper and Wisdom, their Desires with Moderation and Justice in a dutiful memorial to the King, to be transmitted by the Provincial Assemblies to their respective Agents in London, such Application could not fail to produce the most desirable Effects. but if on the other Hand the Congress should order or suffer the people to proceed to the extremes which I now much fear, nothing but the Sword can determine the unnatural contest, and they would soon discover the fatal Truth of what hath been so emphatically expressed by the judicious M<sup>r</sup> Glover "that high sounding words produce no food for the hungry no raiment for the naked."

I am Sir Your Obliged Hble Servant

BROOK WATSON.

P. S.—I have rec'd the kindest treatment from Cap<sup>t</sup> Fisher, Col<sup>t</sup> Hinman and Major Elmer.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6. J. 118

FROM MESSRS. WARREN AND HAWLEY.

WATERTOWN July 4. 1775

SIR.

As Pomroy is now Absent, and at the distance of an hundred miles from the Army, if it can be consistent with your Excellencys Trust & the Service to retain his Commission untill you shall receive Advice from the Continental Congress, and we shall be able to prevail with Heath to make a concession Honourable to himself, and advantageous to the publick. We humbly conceive the way would be open to do Justice to Thomas. We have the Honour to be Your Excellencys Most

Obedient Hunbl Servt<sup>s</sup>

JAS. WARREN  
JOSEPH HAWLEY

[ORDERS.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 4th, 1775.

Parole, Abington.

Counter Sign, Bedford.

Exact returns to be made by the proper Officers of all the Provisions, Ordnance, Ordnance Stores, Powder, Lead, working Tools of all kinds, Tents, Camp Kettles, and all other Stores under their respective care, belonging to the Armies at Roxbury and Cambridge. The commanding Officer of each Regiment to make a return of the number of blankets wanted to compleat every Man with one at least.

The Hon: Artemus Ward, Charles Lee, Philip Schuyler, and Israel Putnam Esquires, are appointed Major Generals of the American Army, and due obedience is to be paid them as such. The Continental Congress not having compleated the appointments of the other officers in said army, nor had sufficient time to prepare and forward their Commissions; every Officer is to continue to do duty in the Rank and Station he at present holds, untill further orders.

Thomas Mifflin Esqr: is appointed by the General one of his Aid-de-Camps.—Joseph Reed Esqr is in like manner appointed Secretary to the General, and they are in future to be considered and regarded as such.

The Continental Congress having now taken all the Troops of the several Colonies, which have been raised, or which may be hereafter raised, for the support and defence of the Liberties

ties of America; into their Pay and Service: They are now the Troops of the United Provinces of North America; and it is hoped that all Distinctions of Colonies will be laid aside; so that one and the same spirit may animate the whole, and the only Contest be, who shall render, on this great and trying occasion; the most essential Service to the great and common cause in which we are all engaged.

It is required and expected that exact discipline be observed, and due Subordination prevail thro' the whole Army, as a Failure in these most essential points must necessarily produce extreme Hazard, Disorder and Confusion; and end in shameful disappointment and disgrace.

The General most earnestly requires, and expects, a due observance of those articles of war, established for the Government of the army, which forbid profane cursing, swearing and drunkenness; And in like manner requires & expects, of all Officers, and Soldiers, not engaged on actual duty, a punctual attendance on divine Service, to implore the blessings of heaven upon the means used for our safety and defence.

All Officers are required and expected to pay diligent Attention, to keep their Men neat and clean—to visit them often at their quarters, and inculcate upon them the necessity of cleanliness, as essential to their health and service. They are particularly to see, that they have Straw to lay on, if to be had, and to make it known if they are destitute of this article. They are also to take care that Necessaries be provided in the Camps and frequently filled up to prevent their being offensive and unhealthy. Proper Notice will be taken of such Officers and Men, as distinguish themselves by their attention to these necessary duties.

The commanding Officer of each Regiment is to take particular care that not more than two Men of a Company be absent on furlough at the same time, unless in very extraordinary cases.

Col Gardner is to be buried to morrow at 3, o'clock, P. M. with the military Honors due to so brave and gallant an Officer, who fought, bled and died in the Cause of his country and mankind. His own Regiment, except the company at Malden, to attend on this mournful occasion. The places of those Companies in the Lines on Prospect Hill, to be supplied by Col Grovers regiment 'till the funeral is over.

No Person is to be allowed to go to Fresh-water pond a fishing or on any other occasion as there may be danger of introducing the small pox into the army.

It is strictly required and commanded that there be no firing of Cannon or small Arms from any of the Lines, or elsewhere, except in case of necessary, immediate defence, or special order given for that purpose.

All Prisoners taken, Deserters coming in, Persons coming out of Boston, who can give any Intelligence; any Captures of any kind from the Enemy, are to be immediately reported and brought up to Head Quarters in Cambridge.

Capt: Griffin is appointed Aid-de-Camp to General Lee and to be regarded as such.

The Guard for the Security of the Stores at Watertown, is to be increased to thirty men immediately.

A Serjeant and six men to be set as a Guard to the Hospital, and are to apply to Doctor Rand.

Complaint having been made against John White Quarter Master of Col. Nixon's Regmt: for misdemeanors in drawing out Provisions for more Men than the Regiment consisted of; A Court Martial consisting of one Captain and four Subalterns is ordered to be held on said White, who are to enquire, determine and report.

#### AFTER ORDERS. 10 O'CLOCK.

The General desires that some Carpenters be immediately set to work at Brattle's Stables, to fix up Stalls for eight Horses, and more if the Room will admit, with suitable racks, managers &c.

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 5th: 1775.

Parole, Bedford.

C Sign, Cambridge.

The Adjutant of each Regiment is required to take special care, that all general orders are communicated, as well to the private men, as to the officers—that there may be no Plea of Ignorance—they will be deemed answerable for all the consequences which may follow a neglect of this order.

A General Court martial is ordered to sit to morrow at 10 o'clock A. M. for the Trial of William Patten charged with "leaving his post on guard" David Wells and Gideon Cole for "sleeping on their posts as sentinels"—John Scott for "insulting the Centry and attempting to pass the guard at Boston" and James Foshe for "theft"—When the Witnesses are to attend and the parties charged, are to have notice this day that they may be prepared for their trials.

The

The General most earnestly recommends & requires of all the Officers, that they be exceeding diligent and strict in preventing all Invasions and Abuse of private property in their quarters, or elsewhere he hopes, and indeed flatters himself, that every private Soldier will detest, and abhor such practices, when he considers, that it is for the preservation of his own Rights, Liberty and Property, and those of his Fellow Countrymen, that he is now called into service: that it is unmanly and sully's the dignity of the great cause, in which we are all engaged, to violate that property, he is called to protect, and especially, that it is most cruel and inconsistent, thus to add to the Distresses of those of their countrymen, who are suffering under the Iron hand of oppression.

The General again urges, a speedy and exact Return, of the Forces, Stores, Provisions &c; as desired in the Orders already issued. and for the future, these Returns to be made once a week, on Saturday Morning regularly. The General is much pleased with the expedition and care, which some Officers have already shewn in their obedience to this order.

The Colonel or commanding Officer of each Regiment, is to direct an Officer of each Company, to call over the Rolls of their men, at six oClock every morning, and to make proper Inquiry after the absentees.

[On July 5 President Hancock transmitted the articles passed by Congress for the government of the troops. *Letters to Washington*, vol. 89. These articles are printed in *Journals of Congress*, June 29, 1775.]

[ORDERS.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 6th, 1775.

Parole, Cumberland.

C Sign, Derby.

A General Court Martial is ordered to sit to morrow at 10 oClock, A. M: for the Trial of John Semsy, John Batcheler, and William Crostin all of Col Gridley's Regiment, charged with "Desertion and Theft". At the same time, they are to hear and determine, the Case of Edward Dunley a Stroller, accused of "Theft"—Notice to be given to the Prisoners to day.

Captain Leonard of Col Woodbridges Regiment and the remainder of his Company, are ordered to join the Guard at Watertown.

The Cloathing provided by the Massachusetts Committee of Supplies, for those Men of their Government, who lost their Cloaths in the late Action on Bunkers-hill, to be distributed to the most needy and necessitous Men of each Regimt: & an Account to be kept thereof by the commanding Officer of each regiment.

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 7th: 1775.

Parole, Dorchester.

C Sign, Exeter.

It is with inexpressible Concern that the General upon his first Arrival in the army, should find an Officer sentenced by a General Court Martial to be cashier'd for Cowardice—A Crime of all others, the most infamous in a Soldier, the most injurious to an Army, and the last to be forgiven; inasmuch as it may, and often does happen, that the Cowardice of a single Officer may prove the Distraction of the whole Army: The General therefore (tho' with great Concern, and more especially, as the Transaction happened before he had the Command of the Troops) thinks himself obliged for the good of the service, to approve the Judgment of the Court Martial with respect to Capt: John Callender, who is hereby sentenced to be cashiered. Capt: John Callender is accordingly cashiered and dismiss'd: from all farther service in the Continental Army as an Officer.

The General having made all due inquiries, and maturely consider'd this matter is led to the above determination not only from the particular Guilt of Capt Callenders, but the fatal Consequences of such Conduct to the army and to the cause of America.

He now therefore most earnestly exhorts Officers of all Ranks to shew an Example of Bravery and Courage to their men; assuring them that such as do their duty in the day of Battle, as brave and good Officers, shall be honor'd with every mark of distinction and regard; their names and merits made known to the General Congress and all America: while on the other hand, he positively declares that every Officer, be his rank what it may, who shall betray his Country, dishonour the Army and his General, by basely keeping back and shrinking from his duty in any engagement; shall be held up as an infamous Coward and punish'd as such, with

with the utmost martial severity; and no Connections, Interest or Intercessions in his behalf will avail to prevent the strict execution of justice.

Capt Scott's and Capt Styler's Company's from New Hampshire, are to be incorporated, or added to Col. Serjants Regiment, agreeable to the application made for that purpose. No Officer or Soldier, posted in the Lines for the defence of them, on Prospect Hill, or Winter Hill, or elsewhere, are upon any account to sleep out of their encampment or leave it at night. The Troops from New Hampshire are particularly requir'd to attend to this Order, from their particular Circumstances of situation.

No Soldier, belonging to these posts, or elsewhere, to be suffered to straggle at a distance from their respective parade, on any pretence, without leave from his Officers: As an unguarded Hour, may prove fatal to the whole army, and to the noble Cause in which we are engaged. The Importance of which, to every man of common understanding, must inspire every good Officer and Soldier, with the noblest Ardour and strictest attention, least he should prove the fatal instrument of our ruin.

The Adjutant General is required, to make a return as quick as possible, of the Troops in Cambridge, their number and the duty they do.

Complaints having been made with respect to the Bread, as being sour and unwholesome; the Quarter Master General is hereby directed to enquire into the matter and report upon it: At the same time to inform the Bakers that if any Complaints are made and they shall be found just, they will be most severely punished.

The Guards on the Roads leading to Bunker's Hill, are ordered not to suffer any person to pass them, unless an Officer is sent down from the Lines to order it, or they will be severely punished.

The General has great Reason; and is highly displeased, with the Negligence and Inattention of those Officers, who have placed as Centries, at the out-posts, Men with whose Characters they are not acquainted. He therefore orders, that for the future, no Man shall be appointed to those important Stations, who is not a Native of this Country, or has a Wife, or Family in it, to whom he is known to be attached. This order is to be consider'd as a standing one and the Officers are to pay obedience to it at their peril.

A Complaint of the most extraordinary kind having been made to the General, that Soldiers enlisted in one Regiment, have been seduced to reinlist into others, by Agents employed for that purpose under the specious promises of money, or leave of absence from the army, a procedure so subversive of all order, discipline, and of the very Existance of the army, cannot be forgiven—the strictest Orders are therefore given against such practices, and the General most earnestly declares, that if any Agent or Soldier, shall hereafter be found so offending, he will punish them with the utmost severity.

A General Court Martial having sat upon William Patten and reported, that no Evidence appeared against him, to support the Charge; the General defers his decision upon the Report, until farther consideration. In the mean time, the Adjutant General is ordered to wait on Col Ward, by whom the Prisoner was confin'd and learn from him upon whose complaint, and what Witnesses, there are to support it.

A regimental Court Martial is ordered to sit to morrow 10 o'clock, on Samuel Bartlett of the Company late Capt: Callenders, and Col Gridley's Regiment, confin'd for "abusive behaviour."

A General Court Martial to sit to morrow, 10 o'clock A. M: for the Trial of Thomas Daniels, charged with "stealing"; each of the above Prisoners to have notice to day, and the Witnesses in like manner order'd to attend.

In order that all the sick and wounded in the Army may be provided for, and taken Care of in the best way and manner possible: It is order'd, that when any Officer or Soldier is so ill, either by a wound, or otherwise, that the Surgeon of the Regt: to which he belongs, finds he cannot be properly taken care of in such Regt: such Surgeon shall send him to the Camp Hospital to which they belong, with a Certificate of the Man's Name, the Company to which he belongs, and in that case the Surgeon of the Hospital shall rec'eive said sick and wounded; and in case such Hospital shall be too full, in that case the Surgeons of said Hospital shall send such of his patients, as may be removed with safety, to the Hospital at Water town, with the like Certificate as above, on which the Surgeon of Water town Hospital, is to receive, and take care of him.

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 8th, 1775.

Parole, Essex.

Counter-sign, Falkland.

Ordered that the main guard on no Account whatever, be without a Drum, which is to beat to Arms on any Alarm and be followed by all the drums in the Camp; On which every Officer and Soldier is immediately to repair to the Alarm post.

The

The Commanding Officer of each Regiment or Corps in Cambridge as soon as the Men are paraded after an Alarm, to send an Officer to Head Quarters for orders.

The commanding Officers at Roxbury, Prospect hill Winter-hill and Sewalls point to send Expresses in case of Alarm to Head Quarters with an account of the Situation and the movements of the enemy—if they are not each provided with a Horse for that purpose; the Adjutant General to apply to the Committee of supplies.

Col Gridley of the Artillery, or the next in Command, to give in a Return of his men, Stores, and Ammunition, agreeable to the Order of the 4th Instant, and to distinguish the Posts to which his Regiment is assigned in Case of alarm: The same order as to a Return of the Men, Ammunition and Blankets is given to the Commanding Officers of the Regiments late Col Garner's Col Gloves, & Col Gerrishes, who have omitted complying with the above Orders hitherto.

The Commanding Officers at Winter-hill, Prospect-hill and Roxbury are to make particular enquiry into the Ammunition of the Men in those Lines, and if there is any Deficiency immediately to report it to the General at Head quarters.

A General Court Martial is order'd to set on monday next 10, oClock A: M: for the Trial of Lieut<sup>t</sup> Brigham charged with, "rescuing a Prisoner when in lawful custody."

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6. f. 126.

FROM JAMES HENDRICKS AND OTHERS.

ALEXANDRIA July 8. 1775

May it please your Excellency.

Your favor of the 20 ult<sup>m</sup>. notifying your Intended departure for the Camp, we Received, and after transmitting copies to the different officers, to whom it was directed, we laid it before a full meeting of your company this day. At the same time that they deplore the unfortunate occasion, that calls you, their patron, friend & worthy citizen from them, & your more tender connections, they beg your acceptance of their most hearty congratulations upon your appointment to the supreme military command of the American confederated forces.

Firmly convinced Sir of your zealous attachment to the rights of your country and those of mankind, and of your earnest desire that harmony & Good will should again take place between us & our parent state, we well know that your every exertion will be invariably employed, to preserve the one & effect the other.

Your kind recommendation, that a strict attention be had to disciplining the company, shall be complied with, and every possible method used for procuring arms & ammunition.

We are to inform you Sir, by desire of the Company, that if at any time you shall judge it expedient for them to join the Troops at Cambridge, or to march elsewhere, they will cheerfully do it.

As the success of our arms, during the unhappy contest for our liberties, will ever afford us the highest satisfaction, and as reports heretofore have been various & unauthentic, we Intreat your Excellency, should there be any future Engagement and your leisure permit, to favour us with an account. Let our concerns for the cause we are Imbarked in, claim your excuse for this freedom.

We now Recommend you to the favor of him, by whom Kings Reign and Princes decree justice, and wishing all your councils & operations to be directed by his gracious providence to an happy and lasting union between us & Great Britain we are with great regard for selves & the Company

Your Excellency's Most Obed & Humble Servants

JAMES HENDRICKS.

GEO. GILPIN

ROB<sup>t</sup> HARRISON

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6. f. 135.*

G. JOHNSON TO THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

SIR,

ONTARIO July the 8th 1775

Though I rec'd your letter from the Provincial Congress several days ago I had not a good opportunity to answer it till now. I suppose however this will reach *you* safe notwithstanding all the rest of my correspondence is interrupted by ignorant impertinents.

As to the endeavour you speak of to reconcile the unhappy differences between the parent state and these colonies be assured I ardently wish to see them as yet I am sorry to say I have not been able to discover any attempt of that kind but that of the Assembly the only true legal Representatives of the people and as to the individuals who you say officiously (in my quarter) the mode and measures you think necessary for these salutary purposes I am really a stranger to them If you mean myself you must have been grossly imposed upon I once indeed went with reluctance at the request of several of the principal inhabitants to one of the peoples meetings which I found had been called by an itinerant N. England Leather dresser and conducted by others if possible more contemptible. I had therefore little inclination to revisit such men or attend to their absurdities. And altho I did not incline to think that your gentlemen had formed any designs against me yet it is most certain that such designs were formed Of this I received a clear account by express from a friend near Albany, which was soon corroborated by Letters from other Quarters particularly one from a Gentleman of the Committee at Philadelphia a Captain in your levies who was pretty circumstantial and since I have had the like from many others I have likewise found that mean Instruments were officiously employed to disturb the minds of the Indians to interrupt the ordinary discharge of my duties and prevent their receiving Messages they had long since expected from me To enter into a minute detail of all the falsehoods propagated and all the obstructions I met with though it cou'l not fail astonishing any gentlemen disposed to discountenance them would far exceed the limits of a letter or the time I have to spare as I am now finishing my Congress entirely to my satisfaction with 1348 Warriors who came hither to the only place where they could transact business or receive favors without interruption and who are much dissatisfied at finding that the goods which I was necessitated to send for to Montreal were obliged to be ordered back by the merchant to prevent his being insulted or his property invaded by the mistaken populace—that their Ammunition was stopped at Albany—the persons on this Communication employed in purchasing provisions for the Congress insulted and all my Letters as well as even some trifling articles for the use of my own table stopped And this moment the Mayor of Albany assured me that he was the other day aroused out of his bed at a certain M<sup>r</sup> Thompson's above the German Flats by one Hirkemer and 15 others who pursued him to search for any things he might have for me

You may be assured sir that this is far from being agreeable to the Indians that it might have produced very disagreeable consequences long since had not compassion for a deluded people taken place of every other consideration. And that the impotent endeavors of a Missionary (who has forfeited his Honor pledged to me) with part of the tribes is a circumstance that however trifling encreases their resentment

I should be much obliged by your promises of discountenancing any attempts against myself &c<sup>a</sup> did they not appear on condition of Compliance with Continental or Provincial Congresses or even Committees formed or to be formed many of whose resolves may neither consist with my Conscience duty or loyalty I trust I shall always manifest more humanity than to promote the destruction of the innocent inhabitants of a Colony to which I have been always warmly attached a declaration that must appear perfectly suitable to the character of a man of honour and principle who can on no account neglect those duties that are consistent therewith however they may differ from sentiments now adopted in so many parts of America

I sincerely wish a speedy termination to the present troubles and I am Sir

Your most Humble Servant

G. JOHNSON.

I shall have occasion to meet the Indians of my department in different Quarters this season A true Copy (Signed) JOHN BAY Sevr

## [ ORDER. ]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 9th 1775.

Parole, *Effingham.*C Sign, *Watertown.*

The Continental Congress having been pleased to appoint Horatio Gates Esqr Brigadier General, and Adjutant General of the Army; he is to be obeyed as such; and all Orders transmitted through him from the Commander in Chief, whether written, or verbal, are to be punctually, and immediately obey'd.

All Soldiers, more than two a Company, who are at present absent on Furlough, and all Officers, non Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers, who have not join'd their respective Corps, to be ordered forthwith to Camp. The Commanding Officers of Corps to be answerable to the General, for an immediate obedience to this order.

The General (or in his absence) The Commanding Officer at Roxbury, to send a report every day in writing, sealed up, to the Commander in Chief at Head Quarters, in Cambridge, of all the material Occurrences of the preeceeding day; mentioning particularly, all Arrivals of Ships and Vessels in the bay; and what changes and alterations are made, in the Stations of the Men of war, Transport's, and floating batteries &c:

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. 1, f. 4; Transcript A, Vol. 1, f. 2; Continental Congress, No. 152, f. 9; No. 169, Vol. 1, f. 385.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE July 10, 1775.

SIR,

I arrived safe at this Place on the 3<sup>d</sup> inst<sup>t</sup>, after a Journey attended with a good deal of Fatigue, & retarded by necessary Attentions to the successive Civilities which accompanied me in my whole Rout. Upon my arrival, I immediately visited the several Posts occupied by our Troops, & as soon as the Weather permitted, reconnoitred those of the Enemy. I found the latter strongly entrench'd on Bunker's Hill about a Mile from Charlestown, & advanced about half a Mile from the Place of the last Action, with their Centries extended about 150 Yards on this side of the narrowest Part of the Neck leading from this Place to Charlestown; 3 floating Batteries lay in Mystic River, near their camp; & one 20 Gun Ship below the Ferry Place between Boston & Charlestown. They have also a Battery on Copse Hill, on the Boston side, which much annoyed our Troops in the late attack. Upon the Neck, they are also deeply entrenched & strongly fortified. Their advanced Guards 'till last Saturday morning, occupied Brown's Houses, about a mile from Roxbury Meeting House & 20 rods from their Lines: But at that Time a Party from General Thomas's Camp surprized the Guard, drove them in & burnt the houses. The Bulk of their Army commanded by Genl. Howe, lays

lays on Bunker's Hill, & the Remainder on Roxbury Neck, except the Light Horse, & a few Men in the Town of Boston. On our side we have thrown up Intrenchments on Winter & Prospect Hills, the Enemies camp in full View at the Distance of little more than a Mile. Such intermediate Points, as would admit a Landing, I have since my arrival taken care to strengthen, down to Sewal's Farm, where a strong Entrenchment has been thrown up. At Roxbury General Thomas has thrown up a strong Work on the Hill, about 200 Yards above the Meeting House which with the Broken-ness of the Ground & great Number of Rocks has made that Pass very secure. The Troops raised in New Hampshire, with a Regiment from Rhode Island occupy Winter Hill. A Part of those from Connecticut under General Putnam are on Prospect Hill. The Troops in this Town are intirely of the Massachusetts: The Remainder of the Rhode Island Men, are at Sewall's Farm: Two Regiments of Connecticut & 9 of the Massachusetts are at Roxbury. The Residue of the Army, to the Number of about 700, are posted in several small Towns along the Coast, to prevent the Depredations of the Enemy: Upon the whole, I think myself authorized to say, that considering the great Extent of Line, & the nature of the Ground we are as well secured as could be expected in so short a Time & under the Disadvantages we labour. These consist in a Want of Engineers to construct proper Works and direct the men, a Want of Tools, & a sufficient Number of Men to man the Works in Case of an attack. You will observe by the Proceedings of the Council of War, which I have the Honour to enclose, that it is our unanimous Opinion to hold and defend these Works as long as possible. The Discouragement it would give the Men & its contrary Effects on the ministerial Troops, thus to abandon our Incampment in their Face, form'd with so much Labour, added to the certain Destruction of a considerable & valuable Extent of Country, and our Uncertainty of finding a Place in all Respects so capable of making a stand, are leading Reasons for this Determination: at the same Time we are very sensible of the Difficulties which attend  
the

the Defence of Lines of so great extent, and the Dangers which may ensue from such a Division of the Army.

My earnest Wishes to comply with the Instructions of the Congress in making an early and complete Return of the State of the Army, has led into an involuntary Delay of addressing you, which has given me much Concern. Having given orders for this Purpose immediately on my Arrival, & unapprized of the imperfect Obedience which had been paid to those of the like Nature from General Ward, I was led from Day to Day to expect they would come in, & therefore detained the Messenger. They are not now so complete as I could wish, but much Allowance is to be made for Inexperience in Forms, & a Liberty which had been taken (not given) on this subject. These Reasons I flatter myself will no longer exist, and of Consequence more Regularity & exactness in future prevail. This, with a necessary attention to the Lines, the Movements of the Ministerial Troops, & our immediate Security, must be my Apology, which I beg you lay before the Congress with the utmost Duty & Respect.

We labour under great Disadvantages for Want of Tents, for tho' they have been help'd out by a Collection of now useless sails from the Sea Port Towns, the Number is yet far short of our Necessities. The Colleges & Houses of this Town are necessarily occupied by the Troops which affords another Reason for keeping our present Situation: But I most sincerely wish the whole Army was properly provided to take the Field, as I am well assured, that besides greater Expedition & Activity in case of Alarm, it would highly conduce to Health & discipline. As Materials are not to be had here, I would beg leave to recommend the procuring a farther supply from Philadelphia as soon as possible.

I should be extremely deficient in Gratitude, as well as Justice, if I did not take the first opp'y to acknowledge the Readiness & Attention which the provincial Congress & different Committees have shewn to make every Thing as convenient & agreeable as possible: but there is a vital & inherent Principle of Delay incompatible with military service in

in transacting Business thro' such numerous & different Channels. I esteem it therefore my Duty to represent the Inconvenience that must unavoidably ensue from a dependance on a Number of Persons for supplies, & submit it to the Consideration of the Congress whether the publick Service will not be best promoted by appointing a Commissary General for these purposes. We have a striking Instance of the Preference of such a Mode in the Establishment of Connecticut, as their Troops are extremely well provided under the Direction of M<sup>r</sup> Trumbull, & he has at different Times assisted others with various Articles: Should my Sentiments happily coincide with those of your Honours, on this subject, I beg leave to recommend M<sup>r</sup>. Trumbull as a very proper Person for this Department. In the Arrangement of Troops collected under such Circumstances, & upon the Spur of immediate Necessity several Appointments are omitted, which appear to be indispensably necessary for the good Government of the Army, particularly a Quartermaster General, a Commissary of Musters & a Commissary of Artillery. These I must Earnestly recommend to the Notice & Provision of the Congress.

I find myself already much embarrassed for Want of a Military Chest; these embarrassments will increase every day: I must therefore request that Money may be forwarded as soon as Possible. The want of this most necessary Article, will I fear produce great Inconveniences if not prevented by an early Attention. I find the Army in general, & the Troops raised in Massachusetts in particular, very deficient in necessary Cloathing. Upon Inquiry there appears no Probability of obtaining any supplies in this Quarter. And the best Consideration of this Matter I am able to form, I am of Opinion that a Number of hunting Shirts not less than 10,000, would in a great Degree remove this Difficulty in the cheapest & quickest manner. I know nothing in a speculative View more trivial, yet if put in Practice would have a happier Tendency to unite the Men, & abolish those Provincial Distinctions which lead to Jealousy & Dissatisfaction. In a former

a former part of this Letter I mentioned the want of Engineers; I can hardly express the Disappointment I have experienced on this Subject. The Skill of those we have, being very imperfect & confined to the mere manual Exercise of Cannon: Whereas—the War in which we are engaged requires a Knowledge comprehending the Duties of the Field and Fortifications. If any Persons thus qualified are to be found in the Southern Colonies, it would be of great publick Service to forward them with all expedition. Upon the Article of Ammunition I must re-echo the former Complaints on this Subject: We are so exceedingly destitute, that our Artillery will be of little Use without a supply both large & seasonable: What we have must be reserved for the small Arms, & that managed with the utmost Frugality.

I am sorry to observe that the Appointments of the General Officers in the Province of Massachusetts Bay have by no Means corresponded with the Judgement & Wishes of either the civil or Military. The great Dissatisfaction expressed on this Subject & the apparent Danger of throwing the Army into the utmost Disorder, together with the strong Representations of the Provincial Congress, have induced me to retain the Commissions in my Hands untill the Pleasure of the Congress should be farther known, (except General Putnam's which was given the Day I came into Camp & before I was apprized of these Uneasinesses.) In such a Step I must beg the Congress will do me the Justice I believe, that I have been actuated solely by a Regard to the publick Good. I have not, nor could have any private Attachments: every Gentleman in Appointment, was an intire Stranger to me but from Character. I must therefore rely upon the Candour of the Congress for their favourable Construction of my Conduct in this Particular. General Spencer was so much disgusted at the preference given to General Putnam that he left the Army without visiting me, or making known his Intentions in any respect. General Pomroy had also retired before my Arrival, occasioned (as is said) by some Disappointment from the Provincial Congress. General Thomas is much esteemed & earnestly

& earnestly desired to continue in the service: and as far as my Opportunities have enabled me to judge I must join in the general opinion that he is an able good Officer & his Resignation would be a publick Loss. The postponing him to Pomroy & Heath whom he has commanded would make his Continuance very difficult, & probably operate on his Mind, as the like Circumstance has done on that of Spencer.

The State of the Army you will find ascertained with tolerable Precision in the Returns which accompany this Letter. Upon finding the Number of men to fall so far short of the Establishment, & below all Expectation, I immediately called a Council of the general Officers, whose opinion as to the mode of filling up the Regiments, & providing for the present Exigency, I have the Honour of inclosing together with the best Judgment we are able to form of the ministerial Troops. From the Number of Boys, Deserters, & Negroes which have been inlisted in the troops of this Province, I entertain some doubts whether the number required can be raised here; and all the General Officers agree that no Dependance can be put on the militia for a Continuance in Camp, or Regularity and Discipline during the short Time they may stay. This unhappy & devoted Province has been so long in a State of Anarchy, & the Yoke of ministerial Oppression been laid so heavily on it that great Allowances are to be made for Troops raised under such Circumstances: The Deficiency of Numbers, Discipline & Stores can only lead to this Conclusion, that their Spirit has exceeded their Strength. But at the same Time I would humbly submit to the consideration of the Congress, the Propriety of making some farther Provision of Men from the other Colonies. If these Regiments should be completed to their Establishment, the Dismission of those unfit for Duty on account of their Age & Character would occasion a considerable Reduction, and at all events they have been inlisted upon such Terms, that they may be disbanded when other Troops arrive: But should my apprehensions be realized, & the Regiments here not filled up, the publick Cause would suffer by an absolute Dependance upon so doubtful an Event, unless

unless some Provision is made against such a Disappointment.

It requires no military Skill to judge of the Difficulty of introducing proper Discipline & Subordination into an Army while we have the Enemy in View, & are in daily Expectation of an Attack, but it is of so much Importance that every Effort will be made which Time & Circumstance will admit. In the mean Time I have a sincere Pleasure in observing that there are Materials for a good Army, a great number of able bodied, Men active zealous in the Cause & of unquestionable courage.

I am now Sir, to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favour of the 28<sup>th</sup> Inst. inclosing the Resolutions of the Congress of the 27<sup>th</sup> ult. & a Copy of a Letter from the Committee of Albany, to all which I shall pay due Attention.

General Gates & Sullivan have both arrived in good Health. My best Abilities are at all Times devoted to the Service of my Country, but I feel the Weight Importance & variety of my present Duties too sensibly, not to wish a more immediate & frequent Communication with the Congress. I fear it may often happen in the Course of our present Operations, that I shall need that Assistance & Direction from them which Time & Distance will not allow me to receive.

Since writing the above, I have also to acknowledge your Favour of the 4<sup>th</sup> Inst. by Fessenden, and the Receipt of the Commission & Articles of War. The Former are yet 800 short of the number required, this deficiency you will please supply as soon as you conveniently can. Among the other Returns, I have also sent one of our killed, wounded & missing in the late Action, but have been able to procure no certain Account of the Loss of the ministerial Troops, my best Intelligence fixes it at about 500 killed and 6 or 700 wounded; but it is no more than Conjecture, the utmost Pains being taken on their side to conceal it.

P. S. Having ordered the commanding Officer to give me the earliest Intelligence of every Motion of the Enemy, by Land or Water, discoverable from the Heighths of his Camp,

I this

I this inst., as I was closing my Letter received the enclosed from the Brigade Major.\* The Design of this Manuevre I know not, perhaps it may be to make a Descent some where along the Coast; it may be for New York, or it may be practised as a Deception on Us. I thought it not improper however to mention the matter to you. I have done the same to the commanding Officer at New York, & I shall let it be known to the Committee of Safety here, so that the Intelligence may be communicated as they shall think best along the Sea Coast of this Government.

*Sent by Alexander who set out the 11<sup>th</sup> July about 5 o Clock P. M.*

[Read before Congress 19 July.]

[ ENCLOSURE NO. 1. ]

*Letters of Washington. F. Vol. 1, f. 1; Continental Congress, No. 152, f. 21.*

COUNCIL OF WAR.

At a Council of War held at Head Quarters, Cambridge July 9, 1775.

Present His Excell<sup>y</sup> General Washington

Generals Ward	Putnam	Heath	Gates
Lee	Thomas	Green	

The General laid before the Council a Letter from Mr Warren, President of the Congress of Massachusetts Bay inclosing a Letter from Mr Gerry at Marble Head, dated July 8, 1775.

1. A Question was then proposed & considered viz. What is the supposed Number of the Enemy near & in Boston, including the Troops formerly & lately arrived & those expected hourly, the Tories who may take Arms, the Sailors who may be spared from the Fleet & the Negroes: Upon which it was agreed that from the best Intelligence the Force on the Side of the Enemy now amounts to Eleven thousand five hundred Men.

2. It was then proposed & considered

Whether it is expedient to keep & defend the Posts at present occupied or to retire farther back in the country?

Upon which it was unanimously determined that the publick Service requires the Defence of the present Posts.

3. His Excell<sup>y</sup> then proposed to the Consideration of the Council

What Number of Troops may be necessary for the present Service in & near Boston, to defend the Posts already occupied against the Force supposed to be employed against Us?

Upon which it was agreed, that the Army for the above Purpose ought to consist of at least 22,000 Men.

4. As it appears by the Returns now made that the Number of effective Men is far short of the above Estimate a Question was proposed, viz.

In what Manner this Deficiency should be supplied?

And it was unanimously agreed that it ought to be done by sending an Officer from each Company in the Forces raised in Massachusetts Bay to recruit the Regiments to which they respectively belong to the Establishment fixed by the Provincial Congress (the Colonies of

\* Marked missing in Continental Congress No. 169, f. 391.

Rhode Island & Connecticut being already engaged in recruiting). And that in the mean Time his Excell<sup>y</sup> the General do apply to the Provincial Congress of this Province for their Assistance in procuring a temporary Re-inforcement subject to the same military Rules as the Army now raised: Inasmuch as the present Extent of Lines, & great Probability of an early Attack renders such Re-inforcement indispensably necessary.

5. As the Events of War are uncertain & a Want of a proper Rendezvous might in Case of any Misfortune occasion a Dissolution of the Army it was proposed to appoint a proper Place for this Purpose in Case our present Situation should not be tenable

N. C. Agreed

That the Welch Mountains near Cambridge & in the Rear of Roxbury Lines was a suitable Place.

6. A Question was proposed whether it is expedient to take Possession of Dorchester Point or to oppose the Enemy if they should attempt to possess it.

Unanimously agreed in the Negative as to both.\*

[ ENCLOSURE NO. 2. ]

The Number of those killed wounded & Missing in the Engagement on Bunker Hill.—

	Killed.	Wounded.	Missing.
Col <sup>o</sup> Frye's Regiment.....	10	38	4
Col <sup>o</sup> Littles Do.....	7	23	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Brewers Do .....	12	22	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Gridley Do.....	0	4	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Starks Do.....	15	45	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Woodbridges Do .....	0	5	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Scammans Do .....	0	2	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Bridges Do.....	17	25	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Whetcombs Do.....	5	8	2
Gen <sup>l</sup> Wards Do .....	1	6	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Gerrishes Do .....	3	5	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Reeds .....	3	29	1
Col <sup>o</sup> Prescot's Do.....	43 & Missing.	46	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Doolittle's Do.....	6 & Missing.	9	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Gardners Do.....	0	7	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Patterson Do.....	0	1	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Nixon Do.....	3 & Missing.	0	.....
Col <sup>o</sup> Mansfield Do .....	.....	.....	.....
	125	278	7
Conneticutt .....	13	26	278
			125
	138	304	410

\* In the draft of this report contained in Letters of Washington, F, Vol. 1, f. 1, occur the following additional paragraphs :—

7. That 10 Horses, with Bridles & Saddles, be provided in order to convey Intelligence from the Out Posts and Camps.

8. That a Beacon be erected on Blue Hill.

London, July 10, 1775. Vol. II. p. 12

TO WARREN.

HEAD QUARTERS CAMBRIDGE July 10, 1775  
SIR.

After much Difficulty & Delay I have procured such Returns of the State of the Army as will enable us to form a Judgment of its Strength. It is with great Concern I find it far inadequate to our general Expectations & the Duties which may be required of it. The Number of Men fit for Duty on the Forces raised in this Province including all the Out Posts & Artillery does not amount to 9000. The Troops raised in the other Colonies are more complete but yet fall short of their Establishment. So that upon the whole I cannot estimate the present Army at more than 14,500 Men capable of Duty. I have the satisfaction to find the Troops both in Camp & Quarters very healthy so that the Deficiency must arise from the Regiments never having been filled up to the Establishment and the Number of Men on Furlow. But the former is by much the most considerable. Under all these circumstances I yesterday called a Council of War and enclosed I send you an Extract of our Determinations so far as they respect the Province of Massachusetts Bay. Your own Prudence will suggest the Necessity of Secrecy on this Subject as we have the utmost Reason to believe the Enemy suppose our Numbers much greater than they are an Error which it is not our Interest to remove.

The great Extent of our Lines & the Uncertainty which may be the Point of Attack added to the Necessity of immediate Support have induced me to order that Horses ready saddled should be kept at several Posts in order to bring the most early Intelligence of any Movement of the Enemy. For this Purpose I should be glad that 10 Horses might be provided as soon as possible.

As I am informed the Congress proposes to rise immediately I should be glad to know what Committees are left or upon whom the executive Business devolves.

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. I. p. 14*

TO SCHUYLER.

CAMBRAY July 10. 1775

SIR

I received your Favour of the 1<sup>st</sup> Inst by Express from New York: but as I am exceedingly hurried in making out my Despatches for the Hon. Congress at Philadelphia it is not in my Power to answer it in so full a Manner as I wish.

Notwithstanding Gov. Tryons plausible Behaviour I recommend it to you to watch him narrowly & as any unlucky Change of Affairs on our Part may produce a Change in him of his *present unexceptionable conduct*. I expect you will on the first Appearance of such a Change pursue the Advice given in my last Letter. The like Advice I give you respecting General Haldiman who is supposed by some to have gone to New York with a Design to counteract us in that Province. The Commissions which have been forwarded to me are not sufficient to answer the Demand I have for them there being at least 1000 Officers in this Department & not more than 500 Commissions in my Possession. As you are so much nearer to Philadelphia than I am, I request you to apply to Congress for as many as you are like to want.

The dispersing Hand Bills amongst the Troops at New York has my most hearty Approbation & may have a good Effect here. Our Enemies have attempted nothing against us since my Arrival here—they are strongly posted on Bunkers Hill & are still busy in throwing up additional Works. We have thrown up several Lines & Redoubts between Mystic River & Dorchester Point to prevent their making Way into the Country and in a few Days shall be well prepared to receive them in Case a Sortie is attempted. I sincerely thank you for your Attention to the Directions of the Congress and for your kind Wishes.

P. S. I Herewith enclose a Report this Minute received from the Camp at Dorchester. The Design of this Manoeuvre I am at a Loss to know, but suppose it may be intended as a Diversion to our Forces here. It however behoves you to keep a good Lookout to prevent any Surprise your Way.

## [ORDERS.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 10<sup>th</sup> 1775Parole *Frederick*Counter-sign, *Gloucester*.

The General Court Martial of which Col William Prescott was president, having tried William Pattin of Col Gridley's regiment, and found him guilty of "threatening and abusing a number of persons, when prisoner in the Quarter Guard." The Court sentence the prisoner to ride the wooden Horse fifteen minutes. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be put in execution at the head of the regiment.

David Wells Soldier in Col Gridley's Regim' tried by the abovementioned General Court Martial for "sleeping upon his post when sentry," is acquitted by the court.

No non Commission'd Officer, or Soldier, but such as are guilty of capital Offences: to be confin'd in the Main Guard: All those guilty of crimes triable by a Regimental Court Martial, to be sent to the Quarter Guards of their respective Corps, to be tried by Regimental Court martial. The General Court Martial, whereof Col William Prescott is president, to set again this day at the usual hour: All Evidences and Persons concerned to attend the court. Whenever a General Court Martial is ordered, it is expected that the Evidences and persons by whom the prisoners are confin'd, do punctually attend to support the accusation, as they will answer the contrary at their peril.

The Colonels of the Massachusetts regiments, to order one subaltern from each Company in their respective Corps, forthwith upon the recruiting service: proper Instructions will be given by the Adjutant General to the Officers ordered upon that service. They will therefore call at Head quarters, as soon as possible to receive their Instructions. The General recommends it to the Colonels to send active and vigilant Officers upon this service, and those who are most in esteem with people in the District they are sent to recruit in.

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 11<sup>th</sup>: 1775Parole, *Guildford*.Counter-Sign, *Hartford*

The Court Martial of which Col William Prescott was president is dissolved. A General Court Martial to be assembled at Cambridge, as soon as possible, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them: All Evidences, and persons concern'd to attend the court.

The General understanding there is a bad Custom prevailing, of the Non-Commissioned Officers and soldiers absenting themselves from Guard, under pretence of going for Provisions; it is therefore order'd, that all Officers and Soldiers, bring their provision to the Guard they mount, and on no pretence quit their Guard, untill it is regularly dismissed.

Notwithstanding the orders of the provincial Congress, some persons are so daring as to supply the Soldiers with immoderate Quantities of Rum, and other spiritous Liquors; any Sutler, Tavern-keeper, or licenced Innholder, who shall presume after the date of this order, to sell to any non-commissioned Officer, or Soldier, any spiritous liquor whatsoever, without an Order in writing, from the Captain of the company to which such non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier belongs; he or they so offending, may expect to be severely punished.

Lieu': Col Ward president of the Court Martial.

*Letter of Washington. B. Vol. I, f. -.*

FROM GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL THOMAS.

HEAD QUARTERS AT CAMBRIDGE 12<sup>th</sup> July 1775.

SIR

I am commanded by the General in Chief to acquaint you, that he is exceedingly desirous to draw the Body of the Troops posted at Roxbury, as near, and as Compactly together for the Defence of the several Works as the nature of the Ground and the Conveniency of covering them will admit; & to that End, the General wishes you would inform Him what Tents, sails, or Boards, may be wanted to cover the Men, and they shall be forthwith Supplied from hence. I have it also in command from the General, to recommend it to you, to have the Houses removed out of the Street at Roxbury, as

as they may Cover & Facillitate the Approach of the Enemy. The General Further Directs me to desire that you will exert your utmost Vigilance to get your several Works Finish'd & Compleated, your Lines closed, and particularly the Abbat, and the platforms immediately lay'd. as we are much in want of Boats for Mystic and Cambridge Rivers, you will as soon as possible send Two for each of these Rivers to the Head Quarters at Cambridge.

With great esteem Sir I am,

Your most Obedient Humble Servant

HORATIO GATES.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6. p. 128.*

FROM NICHOLAS COOKE.

PROVIDENCE July 12<sup>th</sup>. 1775

SIR,

I beg Leave to congratulate your Excellency upon your being appointed General of the Armies of the United Colonies; which hath given sincere Pleasure to every Friend of America, and will I hope prove glorious to yourself, and be attended with essential Advantages to your Country.

The General Assembly of this Colony have the deepest Sense of the Necessity of a strict Union, and the most vigorous Efforts, of the Colonies to preserve them from unlimited Servitude; and their utmost Exertions in the common Cause may be depended upon.

I also assure your Excellency that I shall give you every possible Assistance in my Power: and that I am with very great Regard, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servant,

NICH. COOKE.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6. p. 130.*

FROM EDMUND PENDLETON.

PHILA. July 12<sup>th</sup> 1775.

DEAR GENERAL

My freind M<sup>r</sup>. George Baylor will be the bearer of this, who has caught such a Military Ardor as to travel to the Camp for instruction in that Art. I beg leave to recommend him to your Countenance & Favor, not only on Account of his worthy Father, but from my opinion of his own Merit. He is a Lieutan<sup>t</sup> in our independent Company & has gained great Applause there by his diligent attention to the duties of his Office & the bravery he has indicated: Be so obliging as to make my compl<sup>r</sup> to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Lee, Gen<sup>l</sup>. Gates, Maj<sup>r</sup>. Mifflin & M<sup>r</sup>. Griffin & intreat their countenance and assistance to him also.

We are hourly in Expectation of hearing from you: We yesterday voted an additional C<sup>o</sup>. of Rifflemen to go from this Province to gratifie one that was raised & impatient to come to you. we have also consented to employ a German Hussar who is to raise his 50 men & come to the Camp.

We

We have heard you remain quiet, except some Cannon shot exchanged between Roxbury & Boston. You have my most cordial wishes for success in every undertaking, who have the Hon<sup>t</sup> to be with great esteem

D<sup>r</sup> S<sup>r</sup> Y<sup>r</sup> mo. Ob<sup>t</sup> hble Serv<sup>r</sup>

EDMD PENDLETON

[ ORDER. ]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 12<sup>th</sup>: 1775

Parole, *Falmouth.*

C Sign, *Worcester.*

The Adjutant General will deliver at orderly time, a certain number of printed returns, to the Adjutant of each regiment; so that no excuse can for the future be admitted, for not making regular and exact Returns when demanded; as it is only filling up the Blanks, with the Numbers proper to be placed in them. The Commander in Chief will not for the future, admit of any palliative for making a false return, and is resolved, to bring any Officer of what Rank soever, to a Court Martial who is found delinquent.

When any Trumpeter, or Flagg of Truce, is sent from Boston, or any Post occupied by the Enemy: they are to be stop'd by the first Sentry they are permitted to approach, who is to call for the Serjeant of the Guard, who will conduct them to the Officer of his guard, and such Trumpeter, or Flagg of Truce, is not to be allowed to stir one step beyond that Guard. The Officer commanding the Guard, will send any Letters or Messages brought from the enemy, immediately to the Commander in Chief, and no other person.

A General Court Martial of the Line to sit at Head Quarters, in Cambridge, to morrow morning at Nine O'Clock, to try Col Scammons of the Massachusetts Forces accused of "Backwardness in the execution of his duty, in the late Action upon Bunkers-hill"—The Adjuntant of Col Scammons regiment, to warn all Evidences, and persons concern'd to attend the court.

Col Nixon president of the above court.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6. J. 131.

FROM JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

LEBANON 13<sup>th</sup> July 1775.

SIR.

Suffer me to join in Congratulating you, on your appointment to be General and Commander in Chief of the Troops raised or to be raised for the Defence of American Liberty.

Men who have tasted of Freedom, and who have felt their personal Rights, are not easily taught to bear with encroachments on either, or brought to submit to oppression. Virtue ought always to be made the Object of Government: Justice is firm and permanent.

His Majesty's Ministers have artfully induced the Parliament to join in their Measures, to prosecute the dangerous and increasing Difference between Great Britain and these Colonies with Rigour and Military Force: whereby the latter are driven to an absolute necessity to defend their Rights and Properties by raising Forces for their Security.

The Honorable Congress have proclaimed a Fast to be Observed by the Inhabitants of all the English Colonies on this Continent, to stand before the Lord in one Day, with public Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer, to deplore our many sins, to offer up our joint supplications to God, for forgiveness, and for His merciful Interposition for us in this Day of unnatural Darkness and Distress.

They

They have with one united voice appointed you to the high station you possess. The supream Director of all Events hath caused a wonderful Union of Hearts and Counsells to subsist amongst us.

Now therefore be strong and very courageous. May the God of the Armies of Israel, shower down the blessings of His Divine Providence on You, give you Wisdom and Fortitude, cover your Head in the Day of Battle and Danger, add Success, convince our Enemies of their mistaken measures, and that all their attempts to deprive these Colonies of their inestimable constitutional Rights and Liberties are injurious and Vain.

I am, with great Esteem & Regard Sir

Your most Obedient humble Servant

JON<sup>TH</sup>: TRUMBLELL

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 13<sup>th</sup> 1775

Parole, Georgia.

Counter Sign, Huntington.

As the Army will be forthwith formed into Brigades: The Adjutant General will at orderly Time this day, deliver to the Adjutant of each Regiment, a number of printed Returns, one of which, must be immediately fill'd up, and signed by the Commanding Officer of each regiment, and sent as soon as possible, to the Adjutant General by the Adjutant of each Regiment; on the Back of the Return, it will be necessary to mention; where and in what manner, the regiment is at present posted.

The Commanding Officer at Chelsea, is as soon as possible, after the receipt of this order, to direct, all the Cattle, upon pullein point, Shirley point, and the intermediate space between powder horn-hill and the Sea, to be driven off; and it is recommended to the Commissary General to endeavour to agree with the Owners of the said Cattle, and to purchase them for the use of the Army.

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. I. f. 15: Transcrip. A. Vol. I. f. 12: Continental Congress, No. 152, f. 27: No. 109, f. 4.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

CAMP CAMBRIDGE July 14 1775.

SIR

Since I did myself the Honour of addressing you the 10<sup>th</sup> inst<sup>t</sup> nothing material has happened in the Camp. From some authentick & later Advices of the State of the Ministerial Troops & the great Inconvenience of calling in the Militia in the midst of harvest, I have been induced for the present to waive it; but in the mean Time recruiting Parties have been sent throughout this Province to fill up the Regiments to the Establishment of the Provincial Congress. At the same Time that I received these Advices, I also obtained a List of the Officers of the Enemy killed and wounded in the late Battle

at

[JULY,

at Charles Town which I take this Opportunity to inclose. The great Scarcity of fresh Provisions in their Army has led me to take every Precaution to prevent a Supply, for this Purpose I have ordered all the Cattle & Sheep to be drove from the low Grounds & Farms within their Reach. A Detachment from General Thomas's Camp on Wednesday Night went over to Long Island & brought from thence 20 Cattle & a number of Sheep with about 15 Labourers who had been put on by a M<sup>r</sup> Ray Thomas, to cut the Hay &c By some Accident they omitted burning the Hay & returned the next Day at noon to complete it; which they effected amidst the Firing of the Shipping with the Loss of one man killed & another Wounded.

Last Evening also a Party of the Connecticut men stroll'd down on the Marsh at Roxbury & fired upon a centry, which drew on a heavy Fire from the Enemy's Lines & Floating Batteries, but attended with no other Effect than the Loss of one killed by a Shot from the Enemy's Lines. In the mean Time we are on both sides continuing our Works, but there has been no other movement, than what I have noticed above. I shall endeavour to give a regular & particular Account of all Transactions as they occur, which you will please to lay before the Hon<sup>l</sup> Congress.

Sent by Mr. Hassenclever,

[**ENCLOSURE.**] [

ROXBURY July 11<sup>th</sup> 1775.

A true Account of the Officers of the Ministerial Troops killed & wounded at the Battle of Charlestown June 17. 1775

4 <sup>th</sup> Regt	Capt Balfour .....	W	10 R <sup>t</sup>	Capt Fitzgerald .....	W
	West.....	W		— Parsons.....	W
	Lieut Barn .....	W		Lieut Pettigru .....	W
	Brown .....	W		Hamilton .....	W
5 Reg	Maj <sup>t</sup> Mitchell .....	W		Verner (since dead) .....	K
	Capt Downes .....	K	14 Reg	Lieut Bruce .....	K
	Jackson .....	W		Ensign Heskett.....	W
	Manden .....	W	18 Reg	— Richardson .....	W
	Lieut Crocker.....	W		Col <sup>e</sup> Lieut <sup>t</sup> Ambacrumby .....	K
	Clintock .....	W		Capt Blackney .....	W
	Ensign Charlton.....	W		Lieut Cockran .....	W
	Balaguire .....	W		Beckwith .....	W
				Lenthall.....	W
					35th Reg

35 Reg	Capt Lyon .....	K	59 <sup>th</sup> Reg	Lieut Haynes .....	W
	Drew (since dead) .....	K	62 <sup>nd</sup> R <sup>t</sup>	Capt Horsford .....	W
	Lieut Campbell .....	W		Follier .....	W
	Bard .....	K		Lieut Dalrymple .....	K
	Messey .....	W	65 Reg	Capt Hudgeon .....	K
38 Reg	Majr Brull .....	W		Sinclair .....	W
	Capt Boyd .....	W		Lieut Paxton .....	W
	Cocker .....	W		Smith .....	W
	Lieut Dutton .....	K		Haler .....	W
	Cherystie .....	W	67 Reg	Capt Shamoin Aid de Camp to	
	Capt House .....	W		General Howe .....	K
	Lieut Myers .....	W		MARINES.	
	Lewney .....	W			
	Majr Shork died of ye wound .....	K	Majr Pitcairn .....		K
	Quarter M <sup>r</sup> Mitchell .....	W	Capt Campbell .....		K
	Ensign Mitchell .....	W	Ellis .....		K
43 Reg	July died Majr Spendlowe .....	K	Logan .....		W
	Capt McKenzie .....	K	Chudligh .....		W
	Lieut Roberttaine .....	W	Johnson .....		W
	Dalrymple .....	W	Lieut Pitcairn .....		W
47 Reg	Majr Smith .....	W	Fenneg .....		K
	Capt England .....	W	Gardner .....		K
	Craigie .....	W	Shea .....		K
	Alcock .....	W	Brisbain .....		W
	Lieut Gold .....	W	Avennie .....		W
	Willard .....	K	Rag .....		W
	Lieut England .....	W	Dyer .....		W
	Helyer .....	K	ARTILLERY.		
52 Reg	Majr Williams .....	K	Capt Leomine .....		W
	Majr Maddison .....	K	Huddleston .....		W
	Smith .....	K	Lieut Shutelsworth .....		W
	Willson .....	W	Campbell .....		W
	Lieut Thompson .....	W	Kill'd & wounded .....		92
	Crawford .....	W			
	Higgins .....	W			
	Ensign Cletwignd .....	W			
	Grami (since dead) .....	K			

Most of those Officers are mortally wounded, in the whole of the Field Officers—3 killed & 4 wounded. Captains 8 killed & 25 wounded. Lieut Jordan of the Navy died of his Wound.

A Gentleman who got out of Boston Monday July 10<sup>th</sup> says that the Inhabitants were numbered & amounted to 6573 The Soldiers—women & Children, to 13600—300 Tories are chosen to Patrole the streets, 49 of a night—Very Sickly from 10 to 30 funerals in a day, & no Bells allow'd to Toll, Master Lovell taken up & put in Goal, which being in consequence of some Letters found in Doct<sup>r</sup> Warren's pockets;—& Master Leach also, Released out of Goal. M<sup>r</sup> Hunt saying that he wish'd the Americans might kill them all was confin'd in Goal. 11 dead of y<sup>e</sup> wounded prisoners at Charlestown. Coll<sup>r</sup> Parker dead, he having declared at his last hour, if he got well he would do y<sup>e</sup> same.

The Officers saying Damn the Rebells that they wou'd not flinch. A Great number of floating batteries are building & 5 Transports & 3 Sloops are sail'd for Hay & Wood to the Eastward.

This Gentleman also says that the Officers and Soldiers Triumph Very much at the Death of Doct<sup>r</sup> Warren saying it is Better to them than five hundred Men.

[ ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 14<sup>th</sup> 1775Parole, *Hallifax.*Counter Sign, *Inverness.*

As the Health of an Army principally depends upon Cleanliness; it is recommended in the strongest manner, to the Commanding Officer of Corps, Posts and Detachments, to be strictly diligent, in ordering the Necessarys to be filled up once a Week, and new ones dug; the streets of the encampments and Lines to be swept daily, and all Offal and Carrion, near the camp, to be immediately buried: The Officers commanding in Barracks, or Quarters, to be answerable that they are swept every morning, and all Filth & Dirt removed from about the houses: Next to Cleanliness, nothing is more conducive to a Soldiers health, than dressing his provisions in a decent and proper manner: The Officers commanding Companies, should therefore daily inspect the Camp Kitchens, and see the Men dress their Food in a wholesome way.

The Commanding Officers in those parts of the Lines and Redoubts, where the Pikes are placed, will order the Quarter Masters of Corps to see the pikes greas'd twice a week; they are to be answerable also that the pikes are kept clean, and always ready and fit for service.

The General observing great remissness, and neglect, in the several Guards in and about the Camp, orders the Officers commanding any Guard to turn out his Guard immediately upon the near approach of The Commander in Chief or any of the General Officers, and upon passing the Guard; The Commander in Chief is to be received with *rested Arms*; the Officer to salute and the Drums to beat a march. The Majors General with *rested Arms*, the Officer to salute and the Drums to beat two Ruffles. The Brigadiers General with *rested Arms*, the Officer to salute and the Drums to beat one Ruffle.—There being something awkward, as well as improper, in the General Officers being stopp'd at the out posts; ask'd for passes by the Sentries, and obliged often to send for the Officer of the Guard (who it sometimes happens is as much unacquainted with the Persons of the Generals, as the private men) before they can pass in or out: It is recommended to both Officers and Men, to make themselves acquainted with the persons of all the Officers in General Command, and in the mean time to prevent mistakes: The General Officers and their Aids-de-Camp, will be distinguished in the following manner.

The Commander in Chief by a light blue Ribband, wore across his breast, between his Coat and Waistcoat.

The Majors and Brigadiers General, by a Pink Ribband wore in the like manner.

The Aids-de-Camp by a green ribband.

The Court martial of which Col Ward is Pres<sup>t</sup>. is dissolved.

Daniel Carmicle, Soldier in Col Pattersons Regiment, tried for "Disobedience of orders, for reinlisting and taking advance Money twice over, and for Drunkenness" is found guilty of the several Charges and ordered to be whipt on the bare back, with 39 Lashes, and discharged from the army. The General approves the Sentence and orders it to be executed to morrow Morning, at the head of the Regiment he belongs to.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 133.

FROM GENERAL SCHUYLER.

SARATOGA July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1775.

DEAR SIR

Since I did myself the Honor to write Your Excellency from New York nothing very material occurred until Yesterday, when I received the Inclosed Letters. the Accounts contained in that marked Number 1\* are truly alarming in the present defenceless State of the Counties of Tryon and Albany, and Especially as the Assistance I can afford them either of Men or Money is next to nothing, the few Troops at Ticonderoga &c being at too great a Distance and not more than sufficient to guard the Posts they occupy. I should have been at Ticonderoga this Day had not the Information from Tryon County arrived, which may make my Presence there absolutely neces-

\* Printed as Enclosure No. 2.

necessary.

sary. If it should be confirmed, I therefore propose remaining here until to-Morrow, when I hope to be farther informed. I wish I may be able to proceed to Ticonderoga as I am very much wanted there, the Greatest Confusion having taken Place in the Controversy between the Officers claiming the Command in that Quarter. some have taken the Liberty to disband Troops. Others refused to serve unless this or that particular Person Commanded. The Sloop is left without either Captain or Pilot, both of which are dismissed or come away, much Provision wasted or embezzled, and on the Seventh instant only one Barrel of Flour at Ticonderoga. I shall have an Augean stable to clean there.

I do Myself the Honor to inclose a Return of the Forces in this Colony. It is doubtless imperfect as I have been under a Necessity of forming it out of Returns which were evidently so. I hope soon to send you a more compleat one.

Be assured my General that I shall use my best Endeavors to establish Order and Discipline in the Troops under my Command. I wish I could add that I had a prospect of much success in that way. It is extreamly difficult to introduce a proper Subordination amongst a People where so little Distinction is kept up.

Our Accounts of the Disposition of the Canadians and Canada Indians continue to be favorable, tho' the Intelligence is not very authentic.

I am Your Excellency's

Most Obed<sup>t</sup> & most Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

PH: SCHUYLER

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*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 139.

[ENCLOSURE No. 1.]

FROM THE ALBANY COMMITTEE TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

ALBANY COMMITTEE CHAMBER July 14<sup>th</sup> 1775

SIR.

You have inclosed copy of a Letter from the Committee of Tryon County to the Committees of Schenectady and Albany the contents whereof are very alarming and the more so as the people of that County are not provided with ammunition to defend themselves we shall forward the Letter to the Provincial Congress and would beg leave to suggest to you whether it will not be advisable to let the Company of Cap<sup>t</sup> Van Dyck (which we find you have ordered up to Lake George) March up the Mohawk river towards their Relief—And as that Company has no ammunition (and we have here about three hundred weight) whether you will think it proper to furnish them from the store here and whether you will not think it necessary to send up some of the Remainder to furnish the Inhabitants

As it is not possible to know how far this may be a Fact we would think it advisable to take some steps so as to keep up the spirits of the people of Tryon County

In

In answer to your Letter of yesterday we inform you that we shall endeavor to get the Carpenters as soon as possible

We are Sir Your very Hum<sup>e</sup> Servants

By order of the Committee

(Signed) ABM YATES Jun

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 137.

[ENCLOSURE NO. 2.]

C. D. YATES TO THE COMMITTEES OF SCHENECTADY AND ALBANY.

CANOJOHARY July 13<sup>th</sup> 1775

GENTLEMEN

M<sup>r</sup> Ebenezer Cox informed this board that M<sup>r</sup> Peter S. Deygert told this informant that he was informed by a person who we have reason to think has it from good authority that Coll Johnson was ready with eight or nine hundred Indians to make an invasion of this county that the same Indians were to be under the Command of Joseph Brandt and Walter Butler and that they were to fall on the inhabitants below the little falls in order to divide the people in two parts—and were to march yesterday or the day before.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Jacob Klock informed this Board that this morning about an hour before day three Indians of Fort Hunter came to his House from Oswego in their way home that he was informed by a free negro man a servant of him that they each had a bag of powder on their horses that they staid about an hour and then went off in great haste—From these and other concomitant circumstances we have but too much reason to think it is true and that all our enemies in this county will appear in arms against us as soon as the Indians are nigh to us which from the above information we must expect in a few days.

We have sent off a party of people by way of a scout to find out if possible the Rout of the Indians and to give us early intelligence.

Our ammunition is so scant that we cannot furnish three hundred men so as to be able to make a stand against so great a number—In these deplorable circumstances we look up to you for Assistance both in men and ammunition to save this Country from slaughter and desolation which we beg you will not be backward to afford us as soon as possible.

We have ordered some of our Companies up towards the little Falls who are to keep scouting parties out—And we intend to keep sitting until such time as we can be convinced of our safety.

This is the more alarming to us as we shall be obliged in a few days to begin with our Harvests men are therefore absolutely necessary.

We beg of you to forward this by express to Albany and Copies from there to the provincial Congress and to General Schuyler.

M<sup>r</sup> Deygert was obliged to promise not to disclose the person's name who informed him of the above but be assured that the person is well acquainted with the Indians and therefore if found out is in great Danger.

We are Gent Your most Obed<sup>t</sup> and very Hble Servants

By order

CHRIS D. YATES

A true Copy

(Signed) JOHN BAY Seer<sup>p</sup> P. T.

[ENCLOSURE NO. 3.]

*A general monthly Return of the Army of the Associated Colonies in the Colony of New York under the Command of Major General Philip Schuyler.*

Regiments.	OFFICERS PRESENT										Rank & File.			
	Commissioned.				Non-commissioned.									
Cadets.	Lieutenant Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Capt. Lieutenants.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Drummers.	Fifers.	Fit for duty.	Sick in Camp.	On Fatigue.	Total.	
Brigadier General Wooster's.....	1	1	3	11	6	25	9	12	451	9	15	557		
Colonel David Waterbury's.....	1	1	1	1	12	10	50	36	13	52	24	.....	524	
Colonel Benjamin Hinman's.....	1	1	2	10	5	24	14	4	42	15	.....	473		
Ditto.....	1	2	6	3	14	9	254	4	.....	243	.....	.....	243	
Ditto.....	1	2	3	5	3	3	15	6	.....	93	.....	.....	93	
Ditto.....	1	1	1	1	4	2	25	.....	.....	114	.....	.....	114	
Massachusetts Bay Forces.....	1	.....	1	2	.....	.....	36	.....	.....	41	.....	.....	41	
Ditto.....	4	4	4	12	.....	.....	32	.....	.....	109	.....	.....	109	
Ditto.....	1	1	1	1	1	1	23	.....	.....	25	.....	.....	25	
New York Forces.....	4	6	3	16	2	2	166	.....	.....	205	.....	.....	205	
Total.....	3	3	2	27	1	61	30	154	54	35	2412	53	15	2557

## STAFF.

Regiments.	Dead.	Deserted.	Discharged.	Not joined.	Total.	Major General.	Brigadier Generals.	Brigade Majors.	Aids de Camp.	Secretaries.	Chaplains.	Surgeons.	Surgeons' Mates.	Total.	Where Stationed.
Brig. Gen. Wooster's.....	5	1	.....	552	558	1	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	7	New York
Col. D. Waterbury's..	4	20	1	28	352	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2	1	52	Ditto.
Col. B. Hinman's.....	7	.....	10	445	452	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	425	Ticonderoga.
Ditto.....	.....	10	303	.....	303	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	303	Crownpoint.
Ditto.....	3	1	102	.....	102	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	102	Landing.
Ditto.....	.....	174	.....	.....	174	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	164	Fort George.
Mass. Bay Forces.....	.....	49	.....	.....	49	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	49	Ticonderoga.
Ditto.....	.....	159	.....	.....	159	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	159	Crownpoint.
Ditto.....	.....	25	.....	.....	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	25	Fort George.
New York Forces.....	.....	205	.....	.....	205	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	205	Ditto.
Total.....	4	35	2	49	2547	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2958

Brigadier Generals, Richard Montgomery, David Wooster, Esqrs.

Brigade Major, Dimon.

Aids de Camp, John Macpherson, James Van Rensselaer.

Secretary, Richard Varick.

PH: SCHUYLER

JULY 15<sup>th</sup>, 1775,

## [ ORDERS.]

HEAD QUARTERS CAMBRIDGE, July 15<sup>th</sup> 1775.Parole, *Virginia.*

The Commanding Officers of each Regiment to report the Names of such Men in their respective Corps as are most expert in the management of whale boats.

When any Commission'd or non Commission'd Officer is sent upon any Detachment or Duty of Honor, or Fatigue, or to see the execution of any particular work: He is, so soon as the Service is perform'd to make a Report thereof to his commanding officer.

It being found advantageous to the public Service, to remove sundry horn'd Cattle and Sheep, from the Ground upon which they were grazing near Chelsea, (to prevent their falling into the Enemy's hands) it is earnestly recommended to the several Commissaries, to purchase, such of them, as are fit for Slaughter, of the Owners, in Order that they may suffer the least loss possible, from the unavoidable necessity of removing them, from the rapacious claws of our enemies.

Col Gridley, Chief Engineer, is desired to report what chevaux-de-Frise are made, and what forwardness those are in, that are now making—It is necessary those upon hand are compleated without delay.

Notwithstanding the Orders already given, the General hears with astonishment, that not only Soldiers, but Officers unauthorized, are continually conversing with the Officers and Sentrys of the Enemy any Officer Non Commissioned Officer or Soldier, or any Person whatsoever, who is detected holding any Conversation, or carrying on any Correspondence with any of the Officers or Sentrys of the advanc'd posts of the enemy, will be immediately brought before a General Court Martial, and punished with the utmost severity. The General is alone to judge of the propriety of any intercourse with the enemy and no one else is to presume to interfere.

The Chief Engineer, Col Gridley, to order an Engineer and a Field Officer of Artillery, to go round the Lines and Redoubts, to examine if the Guns are placed properly in the Embrasures; and if the Embrasures are properly made, and properly sloped towards the country. The Engineer and Artillery Officer, to report to the Commander in Chief, as soon as they have obeyed this order.

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 16<sup>th</sup>: 1775Parole, *Carolina.*Counter sign, *Springfield.*

The Continental Congress having earnestly recommended, that "Thursday next the 20<sup>th</sup> Instant, be observed by the Inhabitants of all the english Colonies upon this Continent; as a Day of public Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer; that they may with united Hearts & Voice, unfeignedly confess their Sins before God, and supplicate the all wise and merciful disposer of events, to avert the Desolation and Calamities of an unnatural War;" The General orders, that Day to be religiously observed by the Forces under his Command, exactly in manner directed by the proclamation of the Continental Congress: It is therefore strictly enjoin'd on all Officers and Soldiers, (not upon duty) to attend Divine Service, at the accustomed places of worship, as well in the Lines, as the Encampments and Quarters; and it is expected, that all those who go to worship, do take their Arms, Ammunition and Accoutrements, & are prepared for immediate Action if called upon. If in the Judgment of the Officers, the Works should appear to be in such forwardness as the utmost security of the Camp requires, they will command their men to abstain from all Labour upon that solemn day,

It was with much surprise and concern that the General in passing along the New Hampshire Lines yesterday, observed a most wanton, mischievous, and unprofitable Abuse of property, in the Destruction of many valuable Trees, which were standing along the side of the road, out of the way of our works or guns, he therefore orders, that an effective stop be put to such practices for the future, or severe punishment will fall upon the Transgressors of this order.

William Palfrey Esq is appointed Aid-de-Camp to Major General Lee, all Orders whether written, or verbal, coming from General Lee, and delivered by Cap't Palfrey, are to be punctually obeyed.

A particular Return to be deliver'd to the Adjutant General to morrow, at Orderly time, of the Regiment of Artillery, distinguishing how every man and Officer, in that Corps, is at present employed, and where posted.

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. 1, f. 17. .*

COL. REED TO GENERAL THOMAS.

HEAD QUARTERS July 17. 1775.

SIR,

Col. Palmer yesterday waited on the General with an Information that a small Sloop or Schooner lay down below your Incampment in such a Situation as to make an Attack upon her practicable. I am directed by his Excellency to request you would particularly inform yourself of her Circumstances, & if upon the whole you judge it likely to be attended with Success & the Risque not too great you would attempt her—In this your own Prudence & good Judgment must govern—Should it succeed you will please to give very particular Orders about any Powder that may be on Board as you are not unacquainted with our Necessities in this particular—I understand from his Excellency that he expects Col. Palmer will wait on you with an Account of what Particulars have come to his Knowledge. I am &c

J. REED.

By his Excellency command.

[This Letter was not sent in consequence of subseq<sup>t</sup> Information.]

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6, f. 144.*

FROM JONATHAN TRUMBULL..

LEBANON 17<sup>th</sup> July 1775.

SIR.

On the first Instant I met the Hon<sup>ble</sup> Assembly of this Colony to deliberate on the Request and pressing Reasons sent us from the Massachusetts for an imediate Augmentation of Troops from this Colony Our Assembly agreed to augment with two Regiments of 700 Men each, who are now raising to join the Continental Army It was wished that we could have had the Advice & Direction of the Congress or your Excellency before we took this Step, but thought the present critical Scituuation of our affairs would not admit the Delay of obtaining it Since your Arrival at Camp before Boston, View and Consideration, of their Scituuation & Circumstances, shall gladly be advised & shall attend your Request for the hastening and Marching the Men.

There are 1391 Barrels of Flour come to the Care of Col<sup>o</sup> Jed<sup>h</sup> Huntington at Norwich for the Use of the Army which I have ordered forward the busy Season with the Farmers renders its speedy Transportation difficult. please to advise of the Need of Hurry, & where it shall be ordered to be delivered.

Our Assembly supplied Maj<sup>r</sup> General Schuyler with £15,000 in Cash and 40 half Bbs of another Necessary Article. Accounts from the Northward are favourable The Brig Nancy, Thomas Daviss Master, which arrived at Stonington

Stonington with Molasses is removed to Norwich. she hath on Board 18. or 19.000 Gall<sup>l</sup>. the Committee of Inspection & Correspondence. I trust, will take proper Care respecting both Vessell & Cargo.

The Road by my Door being the nearest for Post Riding from Cambridge to Philadelphia, shall be obliged, whenever your Excellency has Occasion to send to that City, if the Rider may be directed this Way & to call on me, for the Convenience of any Dispatches I may have Occasion to forward by him *Fessenden* has passed this Way more than once.

I am, with great Esteem and Regard, Sir

Your obedient, and most humble Servant,

JOHN<sup>TH</sup>: TRUMBULL

[Answered July 21.]

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 109. p. 70.*

FROM THE COMMITTEE OF PORTSMOUTH.

COMMITTEE HALL PORTSM<sup>H</sup> N HAMP<sup>R</sup> July 17<sup>th</sup> 1775.

May it Please Your Excellency

I am directed by the Committee of Safety for this Town to Inclose your Excellency an authenticated copy<sup>\*</sup> of a vote pass'd by them for Preventing the admission of our Inhabitants into the Camp, upon speculation, without a recommendation or pass first had and obtained from them, Their Inducement to this measure arises from Fears that some may be too freely and incautiously admitted who are suspected of a want of that attachment & cordiality to our Cause, that we have a right to expect from those who are indulged with every privilege in common with us all. We flatter ourselves Your Excellency will give such Orders as you may judge most Expedient or conducive to answer the purposes of this Vote.

But we cannot take leave of your Excellency, without presuming to present our Complements of congratulation, on Your appointment to the Chief Command of the United American Army. We therefore beg leave to be indulged in our Expressions of the most unfeigned gratitude for your acceptance of that important Trust, a Trust the more Honourable because committed to you by the Suffrages of a Free People, for the Defence of their Sacred Rights & Privileges, and Your acceptance must be the more pleasing to Us, because by that We are able to discern your Love for America, when we see you hazarding your life in the Field, unmindfull and regardless of every danger you are exposed to in our unnatural Contest with the British ministry; when we consider ourselves as the Objects of your attention, and the Alacrity with which you have as it were flown to our relief, to protect us from the relentless ravages of a Merciless Enemy: We are filled with the deepest sense of Gratitude for this extraordinary Instance of your Regard, but above all, when We consider your Excellency's Great Military Skill,

\* Missing.

together

together with your many Virtues, that justly characterizes you an accomplish'd Gentleman, We cannot but pride ourselves in seeing Our Friends who compose the American Army under the Command of so Great a General.

Give us leave to add our Wishes that Your Excellency may be so happy as to Obtain the blessings of Divine Providence in all your Movements, & that those respectable Gentlemen, who are employed with you in the same honourable Service, may reap the Laurels of Victory here, and hereafter Crowns of Glory that fade not away.

I am in behalf of the Committee

Your Excellencys Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Hble Serv<sup>r</sup>

H. WENTWORTH Chairman.

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 17<sup>th</sup> 1775

Parole Boston

Counter Sign, N.Y.

There is reason to apprehend, that the General orders are not regularly published, to the Non Commissioned Officers & Soldiers of the army; as pleading Ignorance of Orders, will not for the future be admitted in excuse of any delinquency: It is once more ordered, that the Adjutants of the several Corps, will be exact in seeing the Orders, read every evening to the Men off duty, of their respective Corps, as they may depend upon answering, before a Court Martial, for any neglect in obeying this order.

The General Court Martial whereof Col John Nixon is president, to sit again to morrow morning at eight oClock, to try such prisoners, as shall be brought before them: all Evidences, and persons concern'd to attend the court.

There being a great Neglect in sending in the Returns to the Adjutant General, as directed by the General Orders of Friday last: especially from the Regiments posted in, and near Roxbury). The General assures Commanding Officers of Corps, from whom the Returns are expected, that he will not for the future, pass over the slightest Neglect, in sending Returns to Head Quarters, at the Time directed by the General Orders: if there is any remissness in the Adjutants, the Colonels will confine the Transgressors.

AFTER ORDERS.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Benjamin Perkins of Col Little's Regiment, confined by Col Doolittle, for assisting and abetting Soldiers to mutiny, in rescuing a prisoner from the Quarter Guard of Col Doolittle's Regiment, is to be tried to morrow morning, by the Court Martial whereof Col. Nixon is President; all Evidences and Persons concern'd, to attend the court.

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. I, p. 18.*

TO GOV. TRUMBULL.

CAMB. July 18. 1775.

SIR

It is with no small Concern that I find the Arrangem<sup>t</sup> of General Officers made by the Hon. Continental Congress has produced much Dissatisfaction. As the Army is upon a General Establishment their Right to supersede & controul a provincial

a provincial one must be unquestionable, & in such a Cause I should hope every Post would be deemed honourable which gave a Man Opp<sup>y</sup> to serve his Country.

A Representation from the Congress of this Province with such remarks as occur'd to me on this Subject is now before the continental Congress. In the mean Time I beg Leave to assure you that unbyassed by any private Attachments I shall studiously endeavour to reconcile their Pretensions to their Duty, & so dispose them as to prevent as far as possible any Inconvenience to the publick Service from this Competition.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 89, f. 8.*

[ IN CONGRESS.\*]

THURSDAY July 17. 1775

Resolved That for the Establishment of an Hospital for an Army consisting of 20,000 Men, the following Officers and other Attendants be appointed, with the following Allowance & pay.

1 Director General & Chief Physician, his pay	4 Dollars p <sup>r</sup> Day.
4 Surgeons, p <sup>r</sup> day each .....	1 $\frac{1}{3}$ D <sup>o</sup>
1 Apothecary .....	1 $\frac{1}{3}$ D <sup>o</sup>
20 Mates, each p <sup>r</sup> Day .....	2 $\frac{2}{3}$ D <sup>o</sup>
1 Clerk .....	2 $\frac{2}{3}$ D <sup>o</sup>
2 Storekeepers .....	4 Dollars p <sup>r</sup> month
1 Nurse to every 10 Sick 1-15 of a dollar p <sup>r</sup> day, or 2 dollars per month Labourers occasionally.	

THE DUTY OF THE ABOVE OFFICERS, VIZ

Director & Chief Physician to furnish Medicines, bedding & all other necessaries, to pay for the same, superintend the whole, & to make his report to, & receive orders from the commander in chief.

Surgeons, Apothecaries & Mates, To visit & attend the Sick, & the Mates to obey the orders of the Physician, Surgeons & Apothecary.

Matron to superintend the Nurses, Bedding &c. Nurses, to attend the Sick and obey the Matrons orders.

Clerk to belong to the Director & Store Keeper.

Store keeper to receive and deliver the bedding & other necessaries by order of the director.  
Extract from the Minutes.

CH<sup>s</sup> THOMSON Secy

Resolved that the Appointment of the four Surgeons & Apothecary be left to the Director General & Chief Physician.

That the Mates be appointed by the Surgeons, & that the Number do not exceed twenty; & that the Number be not kept in constant pay, unless the sick & wounded should be so numerous, as to require the attendance of twenty, and to be diminished as Circumstances will admit, for which purpose the pay is fixed by the day, that they may only receive pay for actual Service.

That the Clerk, Store Keepers, & Nurses be appointed by the Director.

Extract from the Minutes.

CH<sup>s</sup> THOMSON Secy

By Order of the Congress

JOHN HANCOCK Presid<sup>l</sup>

\*I am in some doubt about this MS. The date is probably wrong, being intended for Thursday July 27: the Journals showing that these resolutions in a somewhat different form were adopted by Congress on that day. As both the MS. and its endorsement give July 17, I have inserted it in this place.—W. C. F.

*Letters to Washington, Vol. 6, f. 146.*

FROM GENERAL SCHUYLER.

TICONDEROGA July 18<sup>th</sup> 1775

DEAR SIR

I do myself the Honor to inform Your Excellency of my Arrival at this Place early this Morning; and, as a Person is just going to Hartford, I sit down to give you the little Information I have procured.

A Canadian, who twelve days ago left St Johns, advises me that General Carlton has about four hundred men at that place; that he has thrown up a strong intrenchment, covered with Cheveaux de Frise; picketed the ditch, and secured it with an Abbati; that he has an advanced post of fifty men, intrenched a league on this side; that there are many Indians in Canada; but believes neither they or the Canadians will join him; the latter he is sure will not unless compelled by force.

You will expect that I should say something about this place and the troops here. Not one earthly thing for offence or defence has been done; *the Commanding officer had no orders, he only came to reinforce the garrison, and he expected the General:* But this, my dear General, as well as what follows in this paragraph I pray may be entre nous, for reasons I need not suggest. About ten last night I arrived at the Landing place the north end of Lake George, a post occupied by a Captain and 100 men. A Centinel on being informed I was in the boat quitted his post to go and awake the guard, consisting of three men, in which he had no success. I walked up and came to another, a Serjeant's Guard. Here the centinel challenged, but suffered me to come up to him, the whole guard, like the first, in the soundest sleep. With a penknife only I could have cut off both guards, and then have set fire to the blockhouse, destroyed the stores, and starved the people here. At this post I have pointedly recommended vigilance and Care; as all the stores from Fort George must necessarily be landed there. But I hope to get the better of this inattention. The officers and men are all good looking people, and decent in their deportment, and I really believe will make good soldiers as soon as I can get the better of this non-chalance of theirs. Bravery I believe they are far from wanting. As soon as I am a little settled, I shall do myself the Honor to send you a return of my strength both on land and water.

Inclose your Excellency a Copy of a letter from Col. Johnson, with Copy of an Examination of a person lately from Canada contradictory of the account I gave you in my last from Saratoga.\* You will perceive that he is gone to Canada. I hope Carlton, if he should be able to procure a body of Indians, will not be in a hurry to pay us a visit. I wish to be a little more decently prepared to receive him in doing which be assured I shall lose no time.

[\*The enclosure first mentioned cannot be found.—W. C. F.]

I have

I have no way of sending you any letters, with a probable hope of their coming to hand, unless by express, or by the circuitous rout of Hartford ; by which only I can expect to be favored with a line from you.

Generals Lee and Gates share with you in my warmest wishes. I shall devote the first hour I can call my own to do myself the honor to write them.

I am Most Sincerely,

Your Excellency's Obedient, and Humble Servant,

PH: SCHUYLER.

Permit me, Sir, thro you to enquire the health of Cols. Read, Major Mifflin and M<sup>r</sup> Griffin.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 139.

[ENCLOSURE.]

The Examination of Gerrit Roseboom of the City of Albany before the Sub committee of the said City and County of Albany the 15<sup>th</sup> Day of July 1775:

1. Says that he left Montreal on or about the 26<sup>th</sup> June last.
2. That in Canada the utmost Means were used to induce the Indians to side with the Regulars, especially by M<sup>r</sup> St. Luke Le Corn, but that among the Indians where this Examinant has been particularly, *Canusadaga, Esopusseus, Oswegatice*, and *Canawagas*, they decline taking up the Hatchet against the Bostonians [a Term by which the general Opposition is distinguished].
3. That the Canawagas particularly, are active in preventing the Incursions of the other Indian Nations, for which Purpose they have stationed about a Dozen of their Tribe at St. John's with Horses with Directions that if their Endeavours should prove ineffectual to give immediate Notice to the Tribe, who in that Case are resolved to prevent them by Force.
4. That while this Examinant was at Montreal he saw about 22 Indians of the *Messeagoe* Tribe who were in their War Dress and Accoutrements set off to St. John's on a Scalping Party towards the Fort on the Lake in our Possession. But that this Examinant believes they will be stopped by the Means above mentioned.
5. That this Examinant on his Arrival at Oswego about 8 Days ago, found Col: Guy Johnson there who had with him about 300 Indians and about 500 Squaas and Children.
6. That this Examinant was present at a Congress he held with the Indians, but does not know the subject of their Deliberation, but that he afterwards understood from those Indians that the Communication on the Mohawk River was to remain open. That on the Day when this Examinant left Oswego the Indians were to receive his Presents, Except the Rum which was to be Delivered them the next Day at the Oswego Falls, to each Nation or Tribe one Barrel. That from there Guy Johnson was to proceed to Oswegatice. Some of them were to go with him from each Tribe and the Rest to return home, that this Examinant heard before he came to Oswego, that there was to be a General Congress at Oswegatice with the Canadian Indians.
7. That the Indians at Oswego assured this examinant that they did not intend to fight against us. But that Considering the Fickleness of their Disposition and probably the Over Persuasion of our Enemies no great Dependance can be made on their Assurance.
8. That Endeavours were used in Canada to enlist Men in the Service of the Crown, but that the Canadians were extreamly averse to enter into the Service.—That a Report prevailed there that Governor Carleton had threatened to fire the City in Case the Merchants and Others did not join.
9. That he has seen a few straglers and of the lowest Class of the People who were inflistied.—That Mons<sup>r</sup> St. Luke had proposed as an Expedient to the Governor to hang half a Dozen, which would intimidate the Survivors into a Compliance.—That he has been informed there that they were busy in Building Batteaus at St Johns, for the Purpose of transporting Troops across the Lake to attack the Possessions at Crown Point & Ticonderoga.

A true Copy from the Minutes.

(Signed)

JOHN BAY Secry

## [ORDERS.]

HEAD QUARTERS BEFORE BOSTON, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1775.Parole, *Wilmington.*Counter Sign, *Chester.*

As the Chevaux-de-Frise are not in readiness; The Officers commanding the different Lines and Redoubts are, as speedily as possible, to provide a sufficient number of Gabions, which are to lay empty at the Entrances of their respective posts, in order to be filled up as occasion may require. Gen: Putnam will forthwith order his post to be furnished with a large quantity of Fascines.

The Officers commanding the different Posts, to send an exact Return to Head Quarters, this afternoon, of all the intrenching Tools in their possession: viz: Spades, pick-Axes, wheel-Barrows, Hand-Barrows, Axes and Crow-Bars; and to mention the number and quality of any of these Implements, that are still wanting to carry on their respective works.

Six Captains, twelve Subalterns, twelve Serjeants and three hundred Rank & file, to parade to morrow morning, immediately after divine service, from the Regiments now station'd in Cambridge, as a working party to assist in raising the New Hampshire lines.

Col James Scammons of the Massachusetts bay Forces, tried by the General Court Martial of which Col John Nixon was president, for "Disobedience of orders, and Backwardness in the execution of his duty" The Court after duly examining the Evidence, for and against the prisoner, together with what the prisoner had to say in his defence; are of opinion that Col Scammons is not guilty of the Crimes wherewith he was accused, and therefore do acquit the prisoner—Col Scammons to be immediately released from his arrest.

If after what has happened, the Enemy in Revenge of their late Loss, should dare to attempt forcing our Lines, The Army may be assured, that nothing but their own Indolence and Remissness, can give the least hope of success to so rash an Enterprise: It is therefore strongly recommended to the Commanding Officers of Corps, Guards and Detachments; that they be assiduously alert in parading their Men, at their several posts, half an hour before day break, and remain there, till the Commanding Officers think proper to dismiss them:

The General hears with Astonishment, the very frequent Applications, that are made to him, as well by Officers as Soldiers for Furloughs: Brave Men, who are engag'd in the noble Cause of Liberty; should never think of removing from their Camp, while the Enemy is in sight, and anxious to take every Advantage, any Indiscretion on our side may give them: The General doubts not, but the Commanding Officers of Corps will anticipate his wishes, and discourage those under them, from disgracefully desiring to go home, until the Campaign is ended.

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 19<sup>th</sup> 1775.Parole, *Derby.*Counter Sign: *Marblehead.*

## [IN CONGRESS.]

July 20 1775

*Resolved*, That Genl P. Schuyler be empowered to dispose of and employ all the troops in the New-York department in such manner as he may think best for the protection & defence of these colonies, the tribes of Indians in friendship & amity with us, and most effectually to promote the general Interest, Still pursuing, if in his power, the former Orders from this Congress, & Subject to the future Orders of the commander in chief

A true copy

CHAS THOMSON Secy

## [ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 20<sup>th</sup> 1775.Parole, *Albany.*Countersign, *Ticonderoga.*

Certain Drums in, and near Cambridge, very improperly beat the Reveille this morning before day; Although the Troops are ordered to be under Arms, half an hour before day light; it does not follow the drums are to beat at that time. The Reveille is to beat when a Centry can see clearly one thousand Yards around him, and not before.

All

All Aids de-Camp, and Majors of Brigade, are to keep regularly entered in a book; all the General Orders of the army, as well as those of the Brigades they belong to: As the General in Chief, will not for the future, admit as an Excuse for the Breach of Orders; the plea of not knowing them.

Samuel Osgood and Joseph Ward Esqrs being appointed Aids-de-Camp, to Major General Ward, they are to be obeyed as such; and all orders coming from Aids-de Camp, are to be consider'd, as the Orders of their respective Generals, and whether written or verbal, to be forthwith obeyed: It may be necessary once more to repeat to the Army, that every Aid-de-Camp and Major of Brigades will be distinguished by a green ribband.

Certain Corps, having been dilatory in delivering last Saturday, their weekly Returns, as positively directed by former orders; The General is determin'd for the future, not to excuse any neglect in sending the Returns every Saturday, to the Adjutant General. As the Commanding Officers of Regiments, are to be answerable for the due observance of this Order, it is expected they are exact in obliging their respective Adjutants, to fulfill their duty.

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*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. 1, f. 19; Transcript A, Vol. 1, f. 13; Continental Congress, No. 152, f. 35; No. 169, f. 391.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE July 21 1775.

SIR.

Since I did myself the Honour of addressing you the 14<sup>th</sup> inst<sup>t</sup> I have received Advice from Gov<sup>r</sup> Trumbull, that the Assembly of Connecticut had voted, & that they are now raising two Regiments of 700 Men each, in Consequence of an Application from the Provincial Congress of Massachusetts Bay. The Rhode Island Assembly has also made an Augmentation for this purpose; these Reinforcements with the Riffle Men who are daily expected, & such Recruits as may come in; to fill up the Regiments here, will I apprehend compose an Army sufficiently strong, to oppose any Force which may be brought against us at present. I am very sensible, that the heavy expence necessarily attendant upon this Campaign, will call for the utmost Frugality & Care, & would therefore if possible avoid inlisting one unnecessary Man. As this is the first certain Account of the Destination of these new raised Troops, I thought proper to communicate my Sentiments as early as possible; least the Congress should act upon my Letter of the 10<sup>th</sup>, and raise Troops in the Southern Colonies, which in my present Judgment may be dispense'd with.

In these 8 Days past there have been no movements in either Camp of any consequence. On our side, we have continued the Works without any Intermission, & they are now

so far advanced, as to leave us little to apprehend on that Score. On the side of the Enemy, they have also been very industrious in finishing their Lines both on Bunker's Hill, & Roxbury Neck. In this Interval also their Transports have arrived from New York, and they have been employed in landing & stationing their Men I have been able to collect no certain Account of the Numbers arrived, but the inclosed Letter,\* wrote (tho' not signed) by M<sup>r</sup> Sheriff Lee, & delivered me by Cap<sup>t</sup> Darby, (who went Express with an Account of the Lexington Battle,) will enable us to form a pretty accurate Judgment. The Increase of Tents & Men in the Town of Boston, is very obvious, but all my Accounts from thence agree, that there is a great Mortality occasioned by the Want of Vegetables & fresh Meat: & that their Loss in the late Battle at Charles Town (from the few Recoveries of their Wounded) is greater than at first supposed. The Condition of the Inhabitants detained in Boston is very distressing, they are equally destitute of the Comfort of fresh Provisions, & many of them are so reduced in their Circumstances, as to be unable to supply themselves with salt: Such Fish as the Soldiery leave, is their principal support. Added to all this, such Suspicion & Jealousy prevails, that they can scarcely speak, or even look, without exposing themselves to some Species of military Execution.

I have not been able from any Intelligence I have received, to form any certain Judgment of the future Operations of the Enemy. Some Times I have suspected an Intention of detaching a part of their Army to some Part of the Coast; as they have been building a Number of flat bottom'd Boats capable of holding 200 Men each. But from their Works, & the Language held at Boston, there is Reason to think, they expect the Attack from us, & are principally engaged in preparing themselves against it. I have ordered all the Whale Boats along the Coast to be collected, & some of them are employed every Night to watch the Motions of the Enemy by Water, so as to guard as much as possible against any surprize.

\* Missing.

Upon

Upon my Arrival & since, some Complaints have been preferr'd against Officers for Cowardice in the late Action on Bunkers Hill. Though there were several strong Circumstances & a very general Opinion against them, none have been condemn'd, except a Capt<sup>n</sup> Callender of the Artillery, who was immediately cashier'd. I have been sorry to find it an uncontradicted Fact, that the principal failure of Duty that day was in the Officers, tho' many of them distinguish'd themselves by their gallant Behaviour. The Soldiers generally shew'd great Spirit and Resolution.

Next to the more immediate & pressing Duties of putting our Lines in as secure a State as possible, attending to the Movements of the Enemy, & gaining Intelligence, my great Concern is to establish Order, Regularity & Discipline: without which, our numbers would embarrass us, & in case of Action general Confusion must infallibly ensue. In order to this, I propose to divide the Army into three Divisions at the Head of each will be a General Officer—these Divisions to be again subdivided into Brigades, under their respective Brigadiers; but the Difficulty arising from the Arrangement of the General Officers, & waiting the farther Proceedings of the Congress on this Subject, has much retarded my Progress in this most necessary Work. I should be very happy to receive their final Commands, as any Determination would enable me to proceed in my Plan.

General Spencer returned to the Camp two Days ago, & has consented to serve under Putnam, rather than leave the Army intirely. I have heard nothing from General Pomroy, should he wholly retire, I apprehend it will be necessary to supply his Place as soon as possible. General Folsom proposes also to retire. In Addition to the Officers mentioned in mine of the 10. Inst', I would humbly propose that some Provision should be made for a Judge Advocate, & Provost Marshal—the Necessity of the first Appointment was so great, that I was obliged to nominate a M<sup>r</sup> Tudor who was well recommended to me, & now executes the Office, under an Expectation of receiving Captains Pay; an Allowance, in my Opinion,

Opinion, scarcely adequate to the Service in new raised Troops, when there are Court Martials every Day. However as that is the Proportion in the regular Army, and he is contented, there will be no Necessity of an Addition.

I must also renew my Request as to Money, & the Appointment of a Paymaster: I have forbore urging Matters of this Nature from my Knowledge of the many important Concerns which engage the Attention of the Congress; but as I find my Difficulties thicken every Day, I make no Doubt suitable Regard will be paid to a Necessity of this Kind. The Inconvenience of borrowing such Sums as are constantly requisite must be too plain for me to enlarge upon, & is a Situation, from which I should be very happy to be relieved.

Upon the Experience I have had, & the best Consideration of the Appointment of the several Offices of Commissary Gen<sup>l</sup>, Muster master Gen<sup>l</sup>, Quarter Master Gen<sup>l</sup>, Paymaster Gen<sup>l</sup> & Commissary of Artillery, I am clearly of Opinion that they not only conduce to Order, Despatch & Discipline, but that it is a Measure of Oeconomy. The Delay, the Waste, & unpunishable Neglect of Duty arising from these Offices being in Commission, in several Hands, evidently show that the publick Expence must be finally enhanced. I have experienced the Want of these Officers, in completing the Returns of Men, Ammunition, & Stores, the latter are yet imperfect, from the Number of Hands in which they are dispers'd. I have inclosed\* the last weekly Return which is more accurate than the former, & hope in a little Time we shall be perfectly regular in this, as well as several other necessary Branches of Duty.

I have made Inquiry into the Establishment of the Hospital, & find it in a very unsettled Condition. There is no principal Director, or any Subordination among the Surgeons, of Consequence, Disputes & Contention have arisen, & must continue, untill it is reduced to some system. I could wish it was immediately taken into Consideration, as the Lives & Health of both Officers & Men, so much depend upon a due Regulation of this Department. I have been particularly attentive

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\* Not with the letter.

to the least Symptoms of the small Pox and hitherto we have been so fortunate, as to have every Person removed so soon, as not only to prevent any Communication, but any Alarm or Apprehension it might give in the Camp. We shall continue the utmost Vigilance against this most dangerous Enemy.

In an Army properly organized, there are sundry Offices of an Inferior kind, such as Waggon Master, Master Carpenter, &c, but I doubt whether my Powers are sufficiently extensive for such Appointments: If it is thought proper to repose such a Trust in me, I shall be governed in the Discharge of it, by a strict Regard to Oeconomy, & the publick Interest.

My Instructions from the Hon Congress directs that no Troops are to be disbanded without their express Direction, nor to be recruited to more than double the Number of the Enemy. Upon this Subject, I beg Leave to represent, that unless the Regiments in this Province, are more successful in recruiting than I have Reason to expect, a Reduction of some of them, will be highly necessary; as the Publick is put to the whole Expence of an Establishment of Officers, while the real Strength of the Regiment, which consists in the Rank & file, is defective. In Case of such a Reduction doubtless some of the Privates, and all the Officers would return Home; but many of the former, would go into the remaining Regiments, & having had some Experience would fill them up with useful Men. I so plainly perceive the Expence of this Campaign, will exceed any Calculation hitherto made, that I am particularly anxious to strike off every unnecessary Charge. You will therefore, Sir, be pleased to favour me with explicit Directions from the Congress on the Mode of this Reduction, if it shall appear necessary, that no Time may be lost when such Necessity appears.

Yesterday we had an Account that the Light House was on Fire—by whom, & under what Orders, I have not yet learned. But we have Reason to believe, it has been done by some of our Irregulars.

You will please to present me to the Congress with the utmost Duty, & Respect.

P. S.

P. S. Capt. Darby's Stay in England was so short, that he brings no other Information than what the inclosed Letter,\* & the News Papers which will accompany this, contain—General Gage's Dispatches had not arrived, & the Ministry affected to disbelieve the whole Account—treating it as a Fiction or at most an Affair of little Consequence. The Fall of Stocks was very inconsiderable.

[Sent by Fessenden Express.]

CAMBRIDGE CAMP July 21. 1775 5 o'Clock. P. M.

SIR

Since closing the Letters which accompany this I have received an Account of the Destruction of the Light House, a Copy of which I have the Honour to inclose.†

P. S. I have also received a more authentick Account of the Loss of the Enemy in the late Battle than any yet received. Doctor Winship who lodged in the same House with an Officer of the Marines assures me they had exactly 1043 killed & wounded, of whom 300 fell on the Field or died within a few Hours. Many of the wounded are since dead.

[Sent by Fessenden Express.]

WASHINGTON AND HANCOCK.

[“I must beg the favour you will Reserve some birth for me, in such Department as you may Judge most proper, for I am Determin'd to act under you, if it be to take the firelock & Join the Ranks as a volunteer. . . . All military matters are suspended until your state arrives—Jno Hancock July 10. 1775. *Letters to Washington.* Vol. 89.

“I am particularly to acknowledge that Part of your Favour of the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>r</sup> wherein you do me the Honour of determining to join the Army under my Command. I need certainly make no professions of the Pleasure I shall have in seeing you. At the same Time I have to regret that so little is in my Power to offer equal to Col. Hancocks merits—*Washington to Hancock, July 21, 1775. Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous.* Vol. 1, f. 26.]

[ ORDER. ]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 21<sup>st</sup> 1775

Parole, *Maddin.*

Counter sign, *Chelsea.*

\* Missing.

† See Appendix.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6. f. 152.

[INTELLIGENCE.]

CHELSEA July ye 22<sup>th</sup> 1775

To his Exelency the jeneral Sir thes are the Remarcks tackin on s<sup>t</sup> day from four to 6 saw nothing From 6 to 8 saw tow Brigs Bound out and tow vsles from the Casel to Boston—from 8 to 10 saw 10 Botes Loded with armed men from Boston to Chal—from 10 to 12 saw 18 Botes Pasing and Repasing Loded—one transport Bound out—from 12 to 2 saw 19 Botes from Boston to Chal full of men—12 from Chalston to Boston ful of men—from 2 to 4 saw one schoner Coming in up appeared to have a Nomber of men—9 Botes from Chaleston to Boston—from Boston to Chal 23 Botes Loded with men and Horses—from 4 to 6 saw 8 Botes from Boston to Chal Loded with men one transport went and sterd East

Sir I ame your Houmble Servent at command

RICH'D DODGE Cap<sup>t</sup>

[ORDERS.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1775

Parole Nantasket.

Counter sign, Mississipi.

A Court of Enquiry to sit forthwith, President Doctor Foster, Doctor Warren, and Doctor Eustace, Members, to examine into a Complaint exhibited by Mr John Spalding, surgeon to General Putnams regiment against Mr Penuel Chiney—Surgeon's Mate of the said regiment: All Evidences to attend the Court.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Israel Putnam and Lieu<sup>t</sup> Samuel Webb, being appointed Aids-de-Camp to Major General Putnam, they are to be obey'd as such.

Regularity and due Subordination, being so essentially necessary, to the good Order and Government of an Army, and without it, the whole must soon become a Scene of disorder and confusion. The General finds it indispensably necessary, without waiting any longer for dispatches from the General Continental Congress, immediately to form the Army into three Grand Divisions, and of dividing each of those Grand Divisions into two Brigades: He therefore orders that the following Regiments viz<sup>t</sup>—  
Gen<sup>t</sup> Wards, Gen Thomas's, Col Fellows, Col Cottons, Col Danielsons, Col Da<sup>d</sup> Brewer's, compose one Brigade, and be under the Command of Brigadier General Thomas; that Gen<sup>t</sup> Spencers, Col Parsons, Col Walkers, Col I. Reads, Col Learneards, Independents, compose another Brigade, to be commanded by Brigadier Gen<sup>t</sup> Spencer: That these two Brigades compose the right wing or division of the army; and be under the command of Major General Ward, and remain at Roxbury, and its Southern dependencies. That Col Starks, Col Poors, Col Reeds—New Hampshire; Col Nixons, Col. Mansfield, Col Doolittles—Massachusetts, be formed into another Brigade under the Command of Brigadier General Sullivan, and posted on Winter-hill. That Col Varnums, Col Hitchcocks, Col Churchs—Rhode Island; Col Whitecombes, Col Gardners, Col I. Brewers, Col Littles—Massachusetts, be formed into another Brigade, and commanded by Brigadier Gen<sup>t</sup> Green, and posted upon Prospect Hill; and these two Brigades compose the left wing on second division of the army under the Command of Major Gen<sup>t</sup> Lee. That Gen<sup>t</sup> Putnams, Col Gloves, Col Fryes, Col Bridges, Col Woodbridges, Col Serjeants, be formed into another Brigade, under the Command of the Senior Officer therein, and until the pleasure of the Continental Congress be known; These two Brigades to be under the Command of Major General Putnam, also a Corps-de-reserve, for the defence of the several posts, north of Roxbury, not already named.

The arrangement now ordered to take place, is to be made as speedily as possible, and the Majors General are to see it done accordingly, some inconveniences may arise to certain Individuals by this change, but as the good of the service requires it to be made an alert and ready compliance is expected.

All applications from henceforward, by Officers or Soldiers for leave of absence, are to be made to the Major General commanding each division, who is to judge of the propriety of the application and grant Furloughs where they see cause, without applying to the Commander in Chief, provided it be not contrary to General orders.

General Heaths Regiment is to take post at No. 2 in line of General Wards—Col Patterson's remains at No 3:—Col Seammons to occupy No 1: and the Redoubt between that and No 2; Col Prescotts regiment to take post at the redoubts upon Sewells point Col Gerrishes Regiment to furnish the Companies for Chelsea, Malden, and Medford.

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1775

Parole, Brunswick.

Counter sign, Princeton.

As the Continental Army have unfortunately no Uniforms, and consequently many inconveniences must arise, from not being able always to distinguish the Commissioned Officers, from the non Commissioned, and the non Commissioned from the private; it is desired that some Badges of Distinction may be immediately provided, for Instance, the Field Officers may have *red or pink* colour'd Cockades in their Hatts: the Captains *yellow or buff*: and the Subalterns *green*. They are to furnish themselves accordingly—The Serjeants may be distinguished by an Epaulette, or stripe of *red Cloth*, sewed upon the right shoulder; the Corporals by one of *green*.

The people employed to make Spears, are desired by the General to make four dozen of them immediately, thirteen feet in length, and the wood part a good deal more substantial than those already made, particularly in the New Hampshire Lines, are rediculously short and light, and can answer no sort of purpose, no more are therefore to be made on the same model.

The Commanding Officers of the different works and posts, are once more enjoined, to furnish themselves with a sufficient Number of Gabions and Fasines, which are to stop up the Entrances of their respective Redoubts and Lines; and to repair their works which may either be damaged by the weather, or the Fire of the enemy; it is observed that several of the Entrances of the Redoubts, are still left open without any sort of defence; The Commanding Officers of each Redoubt, are therefore ordered to cut a wide deep ditch, at the entrances, and throw a bridge of strong plank across; this to be done without delay.

John Davis of Cap<sup>t</sup> Fosters Company, in Col Gridley's regiment of Artillery, tried for "Desertion and suspicion of intending to go to the Enemy" is acquitted by the General Court Martial.

Ensign Trafton accused by Col Scammons of "abusive Language, to the said Colonel Scammons while under Arrest," tried by a General Court Martial of which Col Nixon was president the Court are unanimously of opinion that the prisoner is Not guilty and do therefore acquit him with honour.

Lieu<sup>t</sup> Trafton to be forthwith released from his arrest.

Michael Bury, Cap<sup>t</sup> Parkers Company, and Col Prescotts Regiment, tried by the same General Court Martial for "refusing his duty and enlisting in another Company": The Court condemn the prisoner, and order him to receive thirty-nine Lashes. The General orders the sentence to be put in execution, at the Head of the regiment the delinquent belongs to.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 89, f. 18.*

FROM JOHN HANCOCK.\*

PHILAD<sup>a</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> July 1775.

SIR,

Your letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> ins<sup>t</sup> with the enclosed papers being duly received was laid before Congress and immediately taken into consideration.

In answer to the several matters therein contained I am to inform you, that the Congress appointed a committee to enquire what quantity of light Sail Cloth, Sheeting and Oznabrigs could be obtained in this town for the purpose of making Tents, and in this business the committee are now closely employed.

It is agreed that tow cloth will be most proper for hunting shirts, & of this the Congress are informed a sufficient quantity may be obtained in Rhode island and Connecticut. It is expected you will give orders for purchasing there the quantity necessary.

Agreeable to your recommendation they have appointed Joseph Trum-

\*See Journals of Congress, July 19, 20 and 21, 1775.

bull Esq<sup>r</sup> Commissary-General of Stores and provisions for the army of the United Colonies.

The appointment of a Quartermaster General, Commissary of Musters, and a Commissary of Artillery is left to you, the Congress not being sufficiently acquainted with persons properly qualified for these offices.

They have ordered a company of Matrosses to be raised in this city and sent forward.

General Thomas, they have appointed First Brigadier-General in the room of M<sup>r</sup> Pomroy who did not act under the commission sent him and have ordered General Thomas's commission to bear date the same day Gen<sup>l</sup> Pomroy's did.

I have sent five Bundles of Commissions 284 the rest shall follow.

They have empowered you, if you think fit, to appoint three Brigade Majors of such persons as you chuse to honor with that command and to commission them accordingly.

They have appointed a committee to consider and report on the establishing an Hospital and appointing a director.

As soon as they have brought in their report and the Congress have come to any resolution on that subject you will be made acquainted with it.\*

Letters are sent with a recommendation to the colonies of New Hampshire, Massachusetts bay, Rhode island and Connecticut to compleat the deficiencies in the regiments belonging to their respective colonies, which you shall retain in the Continental Army. Inclos'd are the Letters to N Hampshire & Rhode Island, w<sup>th</sup> please to order forwarded by express immediately And it is earnestly recommended to Rhode island to send forward to you three hundred and sixty men lately voted by their General Assembly, and to Connecticut to send forward fourteen hundred men lately voted by the General Assembly of that colony.

Upon intelligence that M<sup>r</sup> Johnson is endeavoring to instigate the Indians to acts of hostility the Congress have empowered General Schuyler "to dispose of and employ all the troops in the New York department in such manner as he may think best for the protection and defence of these colonies, the tribes of Indians in friendship and amity with us and most effectually to promote the general interest, still pursuing, if in his power, the former orders of this Congress and subject to the future orders of the Commander in chief"

As the Congress are not fully acquainted with the number of the enemy you have to oppose and the extent of your operations, they reposing confidence in your prudence have resolved, that "such a body of troops be kept in the Massachusetts-bay as you shall think necessary provided they do not exceed twenty two thousand"

In a letter from Lord Dartmouth to Gov<sup>r</sup> Martin dated Whitehall May 3<sup>d</sup> 1775 after recommending him to embody such of the men in four counties (which Gov<sup>r</sup> Martin had represented as favourable to the views of administration) as are able to bear arms is the following paragraph "I confess to you,

\*See page 44.

Sir,

Sir, that this appears to me to be a matter of such importance that I cannot too earnestly recommend it to your attention, and that no time may be lost, in case of absolute necessity I have received his Majesty's commands to write to Gen<sup>l</sup> Gage to apprise him of this favourable circumstance and to instruct him that he do, upon application to you, send some able and discreet officer to you, in order to concert the means of carrying so essential a service into effect and if necessary to lead the people forth against any rebellious attempts to disturb the public peace”

Whether the five Vessells, you mention to have sailed from Boston on the 11<sup>th</sup> instant, are gone on this service time must manifest.

The Bills ordered to be struck by Congress are in great forwardness; as soon as a sufficient quantity worth sending is compleated, it will be sent to you.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Congress have received a letter from the Provincial Convention of Georgia dated 8th instant, informing that all the parishes in that colony except two, which it is supposed do not contain a score of freeholders inhabitants, met by their delegates in convention on the 4th inst<sup>t</sup>; that those parishes that upon former occasions seemed reluctant have manifested a laudable zeal on this occasion; that several Gentlemen in Savanna, that have hitherto been neuter or declared against America, now speak of the proceedings of parliament as illegal and oppressive; that the convention had applied to the Governor to appoint a day of fasting and prayer with which request the Governor informed them he would comply; that they have chosen five delegates to represent their colony in this Congress viz. John Houston, Arch<sup>d</sup> Bullock Esq<sup>r</sup> The rev<sup>d</sup> Doctor Zubly, Lyman Hall and Noble Wimberly Jones Esq<sup>r</sup>s; and lastly that they have resolved strictly to adhere to the Continental Association and are heartily disposed zealously to enter into every measure that the Congress may deem necessary for the safety of America”

M<sup>r</sup> Thomas & M<sup>r</sup> Trumbull's Commiss<sup>s</sup> are Inclos'd in unseal'd Letters to them.

When any thing Occurs respect<sup>g</sup> your Department you shall be made Acquainted.

I have the honor to be with great esteem, Sir,

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> & hum. Serv<sup>t</sup>

JOHN HANCOCK

President

The Inclos'd for M<sup>r</sup> Irish if any opport<sup>y</sup> please to send into Boston.

[Answ<sup>d</sup> by Fessenden the Express Aug. 5.]

[ ORDER ]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 24<sup>th</sup> 1775.

Parole *Salisbury*.

Counter sign *Cumberland*.

It being thought proper to distinguish the Majors, from the Brigadiers General, by some particular Mark; for the future the Majors General will wear a broad purple ribband.

Notwithstanding the General Orders, marking the distinctions of General Officers, Aids-de-Camp, &c—the Generals are frequently stopp'd by the Centinels, which can only happen from

from the Captains having neglected to read the Orders to their respective Companies; If any General Officer, Aid-de-Camp or Major of Brigade, is again stopped through the Ignorance of the Centinels; the Captains will be responsible.

As any attempt the Enemy from their late disappointments, may have the rashness, or the hardness to make; will be violent and sudden, The General expects the Officers and Soldiers will be not only resolute but alert to defeat; and in a particular manner, he enforces his orders to every Field Officer upon no account (duty excepted) to lay out of Camp; but upon every occasion, to shew by their Examples, that activity and steady Courage, so necessary to defeat an enterprising enemy.

Notwithstanding the orders of the 11<sup>th</sup> Instant, expressly forbidding all Officers and Soldiers, from quitting their Guard before they are regularly relieved and dismissed; The General is informed such unsoldierlike practices, are still committed; He therefore admonishes all Officers and Non Commissioned Officers, not to suffer any Person to quit their Guard, upon any pretence, care to be taken, the Men are properly supplied with provisions, before they mount guard.

Report being this morning made to the General That the main Guard room is kept abominably filthy and dirty; for the future one Commanding Officer is not to relieve another, upon that Guard, until he is assured that the Officers and Mens apartments are clean and in decent order.

The Surgeon of every Regiment in the Lines, Redoubts, or in, or near Cambridge, to deliver to morrow at twelve at Noon, to the Adjutant General at Head Quarters, an exact return of the sick, in the regiments they respectively belong to. The Names, Rank and Disorders, of each Officer, Non Commission'd Officer and Soldier to be mentioned in the Return. The Returns of the Surgeons of the Corps, Station'd in and near Roxbury, to be made to the Commanding General at Roxbury, Tuesday noon, in the manner, and form directed by the above Order, and the General, Commanding at Roxbury, will transmit them to Head Quarters at Orderly time, Wednesday.

*Letters of Washington. Transcript P. Vol. I, f. 3.*

TO GEORGE WM. FAIRFAX.

CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE about 5 Miles from Boston.

July 25<sup>th</sup> 1775.

DEAR SIR,

On the other side you will receive a Copy of my last, dated at Philadelphia the 31<sup>st</sup> of May, and to which I refer.

I shall say very little in this Letter, for two Reasons; first, because I have received no Letter from you since the one dated in June 1774, and therefore (having wrote often) can have nothing to answer; but, principally, because I do not know whether it may ever get to your hands: If it should, the principal, indeed only, design is to cover the seconds of those Bills forwarded in my last.

You will, I presume, before this Letter gets to hand, hear of my appointment to the command of the Continental Army. I arrived at this Camp the 2<sup>d</sup> Instant.

You must, no doubt, also have head of the engagement on Bunker's Hill the 17<sup>th</sup> ultimo; but as, I am persuaded, you will

will have a very erroneous account transmitted, of the loss sustained on the side of the Provincials, I do assure you, upon my Word, that our loss, as appears by the Returns made me since I came here, amounts to no more than 139 killed 36 missing and 278 Wounded; nor had we, if I can credit the most solemn assurances of the Officers that were in the action, above 1500 Men engaged on that day. The loss on the side of the Ministerial Troops, as I am informed from good authority, consisted of 1,043 killed and wounded, whereof 92 were Officers.

Inclosed I send you a second address from the Congress to the Inhabitants of Great Britain; as also a Declaration, setting forth the Causes and necessity of their taking up Arms. My Affectionate & respectful compliments to M<sup>r</sup>s. Fairfax concludes me.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6, f. 153-154.*

[INTELLIGENCE.]

To HIS EXELENCE, THE GENRAL WASHINGTON

SIR I am informed By Josef groves from Boston to D<sup>a</sup>y that y<sup>e</sup> Shiping gon out is Bound for Block Island fishers Island and Long Island in order to Cil and Destroy all that Comes in thare way with Six hundred men the man i will Send to you as Soon as may Be\*

I am your humble Servent

RICHD DODGE Cap<sup>t</sup>

ROXBURY CAMP July 25. 1775

SIR

There was Information forwarded to Head Quarters yesterday P. M. of the Sailing of 13 Ships from Boston. I sent one Cap<sup>t</sup> Davis Down the Harbour to watch their motion, and he reports on his return that they put to Sea & stood their Course about E. S. E. which appears as if they were bound to the Southward: that Course would Lead them out by Cape Cod, & to the Chops of the South Chanel.

I am Sir with great respect your most Obedit Hum<sup>e</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

JNO. THOMAS

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 25<sup>th</sup> 1775

Patrole, *Hallifax*

Counter sign, *York*.

Continual Complaints being made that Soldiers of regiments and Companies, after inlisting in one Company and regiment, have gone and enlisted in another insomuch that it would engross the General's whole time to hear the disputes upon this subject: For the future, any Officers who have any dispute in regard to the men reinlisted, are to apply to the Brigadier commanding their brigade, who will order a Court martial of the Brigade, to hear and determine the matter.

The General Court Martial, of which Col: Nixon was president, to be dissolved this evening, and another General Court Martial of the Line, to sit to morrow Morning at the usual time and place, to try such prisoners as shall be brought before them: All Evidences and persons concern'd, to attend the Court.

\*The endorsement shows that this was written on July 25.—W. C. F.

*Letters to Washington, Transcript P. Vol. 1, f 5.*

TO GEORGE WM. FAIRFAX.

CAMBRIDGE, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1775.

DEAR SIR,

In my hurry, yesterday, I forgot the principal thing I had in view, when I sat down to write to you, and that was, to inform you of the indispensable necessity you must now be under of appointing another Attorney. The nature of the business I am now engaged in (which alone is full sufficient to engross the time and attention of any one Man) and the distance I am removed from your business, as well as my own, puts it absolutely out of my power to be of any further service to you in Virginia: It is a duty incumbent on me, therefore, to inform you of this circumstance, that you may, without delay, appoint some other Attorney to manage your Affairs; as it would be folly in the extreme, in me, to undertake to conduct your business at the distance of 600 Miles, when it is utterly out of my power (but by means of a third person) to Order and direct my own.

When I left home, I put Syme's Protested Bill (with some business of my own) into the hands of Colonel Lewis, to negotiate; and since I came to this place, have been informed by him, that, unable to get the Money, he obtained a second draft from Colonel Nelson in discharge of the first, which, I dare say, will be paid. I have therefore wrote to M<sup>r</sup>. Lund Washington, to get this Bill and remit it to you.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6, f. 156.*

FROM THE VIRGINIA DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

PHILADELPHIA 26 July 1775.

DEAR SIR.

With the most cordial warmth we recommend our Countryman M<sup>r</sup> Edmund Randolph to your patronage and favor.

This young Gentlemans abilities, natural and acquired, his extensive connections, and above all his desire to serve his Country in this arduous struggle, are circumstances that cannot fail to gain him your countenance and protection.

You will readily discern Sir, how important a consideration it is, that our Country should be furnished with the security and strength derived from  
our

our young Gentry being possessed of military knowledge, so necessary in these times of turbulence and danger.

Encouraged by your friendship, and instructed by your example, we hope Mr. Randolph will become useful to his Country and profitable to himself.

We most heartily wish, you health and success, with a happy return to your family and Country, being with great sincerity dear Sir Your affectionate friends and obedient Servants,

RICHARD HENRY LEE

P. HENRY JR.

TH: JEFFERSON

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, / 155.

FROM DONALD CAMPBELL.

NEW YORK 26 July 1775.

SIR.

After congratulating You on your safe Arrival at Camp & remaining undisturbed by the Ministerial Army I embrace this Opportunity to Acquaint you that I have the Honor of being Unanimously Appointed by the Honorable Continental Congress to be Deputy Quarter Master General with the Rank of a Colonel in the Army of the United Colonies, and have been directed to attend General Schuyler to the Northward at present. Yet my most sincear wish to be with the Main Body & Your Excellency, where more favorable Opportunitys of exerting past Experience in service & Testifying my Zeal for the Cause in a higher Degree from the want of Officers there, as is said, that I flatter myself with the Hope, if it remains in your Breast to Honor & Gratify Me. I am the more imboldened to be this brief by being told by Mess<sup>r</sup>s. Hancock & Adams & Secretary Thomson after I had been appointed *Deputy* Quarter Master Gen<sup>l</sup>. (which at first I understood to be Quarter Master General, to General Schuyler) I requested Rank as Brigadier General by reason of the Persons appointed Colonels here (under whome Many of the Gentlemen of the Congress Acknowledged I ought not to serve & Lamented that my Disposition for service had not been known to them Earlier). They then annexed the Rank of a Colonel in the Army, & that if your Excellency or General Schuyler approved of the Additional Rank They would have no Objection to it as *Deputy* from the Circumstance of remaining in the province with our Regiments. And I was further informed that what was then offered was inferior to what the Gentlemen of the Congress would gladly appoint me to had I sooner applied to them (which arose from a Respect for this Province & desire of serving it & not from the want of an Early & Glowing Zeal to serve my Country) and that if the Gentlemen proposed as Quarter Master General (to me unknown) should not meet with your full Approbation as he is not yet Commissioned the road was paved for me to Succeed to that and the additional rank this & Leading me to the Ambition of my Soul to serve under your Eye & Command, and my small share of service since 1756 may not be unacceptable from the present Cittuation of the Forces: Therefore Dear Sir If you think the Service of the Country cannot be injured by your Friendly Recommendation to permitt me the Honor of being in the above Station near your Person in the Day of real Service you will Lay me under the most Lasting ties of Obligation Gratitude

itude & Love & bind me in the same to the Honorable Members of the Congress in addition to their friendly attention in their Late Appointment and kind Disposition for my further Promotion from a conviction of the Base Treatment sustained by my Family by the breach of the Public Faith of this Province which Ruined them.

I shall on Friday next proceed to Albany where General Schuyler is & doubt not his supporting my Sanguine Expectations from the Congress, as well as General Lee to whome I also write.

I shall be happy if it may be Convenient to honor me with a Line & believe me to be with much Sincerity & fervent prayers for your happiness, & Long being in the highest Esteem of your Country with Felicity Dear Sir

Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup> & Most Hum<sup>ble</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

DONALD CAMPBELL

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 26<sup>th</sup> 1775

Parole, *Amsterdam*.

Counter sign, *Amboy*.

It is recommended to the Commanding Officers of Corps, that all coverings made of Boards, be built in the form of barracks and in the most advantageous manner, at the same time so contrived as to be warm and comfortable in cold weather.

All Passes to be discontinued for the future, and no persons to be admitted into the Lines, unless introduced by an Officer, who can vouch for him, or by Order of the Officer commanding in the Lines.

It being represented that the present Ho

spital

, is not large enough to contain the sick, Lieu<sup>t</sup> Governor, Oliver's house, is to be cleared for that purpose, and care to be taken that no injury is done to it.

Notwithstanding the strict and repeated Orders, that have been given against firing small arms, it is hourly practised, All Officers commanding Guards, posts and detachments, to be alert in apprehending all future Transgressors.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Clarke of General Putnam's Regiment confined in Arrest, for "neglect of duty when upon guard", tried by a late General Court Martial, is acquitted and is immediately to be released from his arrest.

Levi Woods, Soldier in Cap<sup>t</sup> Nuttings Company, in Col Prescott's Regiment confin'd for "absenting himself without leave and refusing to take the Oath, & threatening to leave the army": The Court Martial upon the prisoners pleading guilty, and promising to behave obediently for the future, recommended him to the General's mercy, who is pleased to pardon the prisoner.

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*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. 1, f. 28; Transcript A. Vol. 1, f. —;*  
*Continental Congress, No. 152, Vol. 1, f. 47: No. 169, Vol. 1, f. —.*

TO CONGRESS.

CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE July 27. 1775.

SIR

Nothing material has occur'd in either Camp since I had the Honour of addressing you on the 21<sup>st</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup> by Express. But on Tuesday 3 Men of War & 9 Transports sailed out of Boston Harbour & stood a Course about E. S. E.

One

One Groves who came out of Boston the same Evening informed the Officer at one of the Out Posts, that the Transports had on Board 600 Men & were bound to Block Island, Fishers Island & Long Island to plunder them & bring off what Cattle they may find. The Fellow returned again into Boston under such suspicious Circumstances that it has led me to doubt the Truth of his Intelligence.

A Deserter who came in afterwards informs me that it was given out in their Camp, that they were either gone for Indians or fresh Provisions, and that each Transport had but 20 Men on board. Upon this Intelligence I immediately wrote to Gov. Cook of Rhode Island, & to General Wooster that they might proper Precautions for removing the Cattle of those Islands & the Coasts, and to prevent any Surprise. As we are confirmed by every Account in the Scarcity of fresh Provisions in the Enemy's Camp, and particularly by this Deserter who says, they have had none since the Battle of Lexington, it is very probable this Voyage may be only intended for a Supply. But as it may possibly be otherwise I thought it best to transmit the Intelligence to the Hon. Congress that they may forward it to the Southward or take such other Step as they may judge proper.

Since writing the above 3 more Deserters have come out which makes four in 24 Hours. Their Accounts correspond with those of the first who came out, & which I have related above.

[Sent by the Constit. Post.]

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. I, p. 32.*

TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

CAMBRIDGE CAMP, July 27, 1775

SIR

Yesterday a Deputation from the Provincial Congress of New Hampshire attended me with a Request that three Companies raised in their Province & now posted on Connecticut River at & between the two Comps commanded by Capt<sup>s</sup> Timothy Rudle, James Osgood & John Parker might be continued

tinued for the Security of the Frontiers of that Province on the continental Establishment: As it did not appear to me that their request could be complied with & as I apprehend you may have more immediate Occasion for them than I have, I thought it proper to give you the earliest Notice where they are that if you think proper you may order them to join the Troops under your Command. In which Case you will please write to Matthew Thornton Esq<sup>r</sup> President of the Provincial Congress. Each Company consists of 65 Men including Officers & are reported to me as able bodied stout active Fellows used to the woods capable of any Duty and having an Acquaintance with Canada—But you will please to remember that they must continue under their own Officers to whom they are attached & subject only to superiour Command.—We have had no Transaction of any Consequence since I wrote you last. Our Army is in good Health & Spirits well supplied with all kinds of Provisions. The Situation of the Enemy is directly the Reverse & we have Reason to think Desertions will be very great four have come out within the last 24 Hours.

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. 1, f. 29.*

TO GOVERNOR TRUMBULL.

July [27 or 28]

SIR

I am to acknowledge your Favour of the 17<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup>. informing me of the Destination of the Troops raising in your Colony: As the Season is now advanced & the Enemy considerably reinforced we have the utmost Reason to believe expect any Attack that may be made will not be much longer delayed: I should therefore think it highly necessary the new raised Troops should join the Army with all possible Expedition. Upon Inquiry with Respect to the Flower I do not find our Necessities to be such as to require an immediate Transportation during the Harvest, but as soon as it can be sent with Convenience you will please to give Directions for that Purpose. Col. Trumbull will advise you to what Place it is to be addressed and to whose care.

Agreeable

Agreeable to your Intimation I have ordered the Express to wait on you & shall do so in future.

We have had no Occurrence in the Camp of any material Consequence. On both sides we are strengthning our Lines in full view of each other.

[Sent by Fessenden, the Express.]

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 89, f. 14.

[IN CONGRESS.]

*Resolved* That the Sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars be paid by the Continental Treasurers to Reese Meredith, George Clymer, Samuel Meredith, & Samuel Mifflin Merchants in Philadelphia, and that the like Sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars be paid by the said Treasurers to Philip Livingston, John Alsop, & Francis Lewis Merch<sup>t</sup>s at New York, to be by them applied to the Purpose of importing Gun Powder for the Continental Armies, and that they be Allow'd out of the same, Five per Centum for their Trouble and Expences therein, that they keep all their proceedings as much as possible a Secret, from every other person, but the Congress and the General of the Continental Forces for the Time being, that they keep up a Correspondence with the said General, and make such Dispositions of the Powder they may import as he shall order.

By order of the Congress

JOHN HANCOCK President

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 27<sup>th</sup> 1775

Parole, Bedford.

Counter sign, Guilford.

John Trumbull Esqr being appointed Aid: D: Camp to his Excellency the Commander in Chief; He is to be obeyed as such.

A Court of enquiry to sit to morrow Morning at eight oClock, in the Tutor's Chamber (Mr Hall) to examine into a Complaint exhibited upon Oath, in the public news papers against Mr Benjamin Whiting, now a prisoner in the College; All Evidences and Persons concern'd to attend the Court.

For the future when any Deserters come to any of the out Guards, they are with the least delay to be sent by a Corporals Guard, to the next Guard in the Lines, who is immediately to escort them in the same manner to the Major General commanding that division of the Army, who as soon as he has examined them will forthwith send them under a proper Escort from his guard to the head quarters: Some Deserters being made drunk, who came last night from the Enemy, before they reached Head Quarters; It will be considered as a Breach of orders in any person, who gives Rum to Deserters, before they are examined by the General.

A Subaltern Officer's guard to be mounted to morrow morning, at eight oClock, at a certain distance from the small pox Hospital; the Officer to come this evening, at six, oClock, to the Adjutant General for orders.

*Letters of Washington.* Miscellaneous. Vol. 1, f. 33.

TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

July 28, 1775.

DEAR SIR

I wrote you yesterday by Way of New York & in 2 Hours afterwards was favoured with yours of the 15. & 18<sup>th</sup>. Inst. with their respective Inclosures. I was extremely glad to find your first Apprehensions of an Incursion by the Indians in

in some Degree removed by the later Advices: At the same Time I think it is evident from the spirit & Tenor of Col. Johnsons Letter that no Art or Influence will be left untried by him to engage them in such enterprize. Should he once prevail upon them to dip their Hands in Blood mutual Hostilities will most probably ensue & they may be led to take a more decisive Part. All Act<sup>s</sup> I think agree that the Canadians are very averse to engage in this unnatural Contest. But I am persuaded you will not abate in the least your Vigilance to expedite every Movement in that Quarter notwithstanding their present pacifick Appearances. I am much easier with Respect to the publick Interest since your Arrival at Ticonderoga, as I am persuaded those Abilities & that Zeal for the common Welfare which has led your Country to repose such Confidence in you will be fully exerted. From my own Experience I can easily judge of your Difficulties to introduce Order & Discipline into Troops who have from their Infancy imbibed Ideas of the most contrary kind. It would be far beyond the Compass of a Letter for me to describe the Situation of Things here on my Arrival: perhaps you will only be able to judge of it from my assuring you that mine must be a Portrait at full Length of what you have had in Miniature. Confusion & Disorder reigned in every Department which in a little Time must have ended either in the Separation of the Army or fatal Contests with one another. The better Genius of America has prevailed & most happily the ministerial Troops have not availed themselves of their advantages till I trust the Opp<sup>y</sup> is in a great Measure past over. The Arrangement of the General Officers in Massachusetts & Connecticut has been very unpopular—indeed I may say injudicious: It is returned to the Congress for farther Consideration & has much retarded my Plan of Discipline. However we mend every Day & I flatter myself that in a little Time we shall work up these raw Materials into good Stuff. I must recommend to you what I endeavour to practice myself Patience and Perseverance. As to your Operations my dear Sir, I can suggest nothing which your own good Judgment will

will not either anticipate or controul from your immediate View of Things & the Instructions of the continental Congress.

The express from hence to England with the Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Commencement of Hostilities at Lexington has returned. It was far from making the Impression generally expected here—Stocks fell but  $1\frac{1}{2}$  P C<sup>t</sup>. Gen. Gages Acc<sup>ts</sup> had not arrived & the Ministry affected to treat it as a Fiction—Parliam<sup>t</sup> had been prorogued two Days but it was reported it would be immediately recalled,—Our Enemy continues strongly posted about a Mile from us, both at Bunkers Hill & Roxbury: But we are not able to get any Information of Their future Intentions—Part of the Riffle men are come in & the rest daily expected.

I did not expect your Returns would be very compleat at first but I must beg your attention to reforming them as soon as possible. And I beg leave to add that I would have you scrutinize with Exactness into the Application of Provisions & Stores I have the utmost Reason to suspect Irregularities and Impositions here. You will be fortunate if the Contagion does not reach you.

Gen<sup>l</sup> Lee has removed abt 4 miles from me, but I will take the first Opp<sup>y</sup> to make your kind Wishes known to him—Col. R. & Major M. Join me in the best Wishes for your Health & Success.

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. I, f. 31.*

COL. REED TO COLONEL BALDWIN.

HEADQUARTERS, July 28. 1775.

SIR

In full Confidence of your prudence & Secrecy as a Soldier, a Man of Honour & a Friend to your Country, the General has directed me to communicate to you a Scheme he is about to put in Execution to obtain constant & authentick Intelligence from Boston. The Plan is this. The inclosed Letter will be delivered by you to one Dewksbury who lives about 4 Miles from you towards Shirly Point—He will deliver it to a Waterman whom he can depend on who will convey it to one John Carnes a Grocer in the South Part of Boston. The Answers & such Intelligence as he can procure will be forwarded to you thro the same Channell: which you are to transmit to his

his Excell<sup>y</sup> by Express immed<sup>e</sup>—As the Success of the Project & the life of the Man in Boston may depend upon your Conduct let it not escape you to the nearest Friend on Earth & for fear of Accident destroy this Letter as soon as you are sufficiently Master of its Contents—When you see Dewksbury give him the above Caution in the strongest Terms: And so to pass from him to the other—Your good Conduct & Discretion in this Matter will not fail to be duly noticed.

I, am Sir, Your most obed

J REED

*Secr*

[Enclosing letter from Dr Church.]

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6, f. 159.*

FROM PEREZ MORTON.

COUNCIL CHAMBER WATERTOWN July 28<sup>th</sup> 1775

SIR,

Your Letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> Instant, to the Speaker of the Honble House of Representatives, was by them referred to this Board: who are of Opinion, that gaols of Worcester, Springfield & Northampton, are the most suitable places for securing the Prisoners, and therefore recommend that they be sent to one or more of these Places.

I am Sir your most obedient Humble Servant

PEREZ MORTON

*Secr<sup>y</sup> pro temp:*

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6, f. 158.*

[INTELLIGENCE.]

CHELSEA July 28<sup>th</sup> 1775 half after 4 o Clock

May it Please your Excellency

Agreable to your order I send the following observations taken by the Centry posted upon Powder Horn Hill. From about 7 oClock A. M. to 2 oC<sup>lk</sup> P. M. one Ship gone out, three Ships & two Tenders Coming in, about 12 Boats pass'd from Boston to Charlestown Light Loaded, or almost Emty. three Boats pass'd from Charlestown to Boston Very heavy loaded with Men.

I would beg leave to ask your Excellency whether it was the intent & meaning of your Orders to Send an Express to Headquarters every day when there is nothing more occurs than has for two days pass'd.

These from your Excellency's most Obedient Servant

LEAMMI BALDWIN Lieu Coln.

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1775.

Parole, Cumberland.

Counter sign, Brookline.

The Surgeons of Learnerds, Heath, Little, Phinney and Parsons Regiments, having neglected to deliver in the Returns of the sick of their respective Regiments, to the Adjutant General, these Returns to be delivered forthwith, and the Surgeons of those Corps, are to be more exact in their obedienc to orders.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 160 & 166.

[INTELLIGENCE.]

CHELSEA July 29<sup>th</sup> 1775 2 oClock P M

May it please your Excellency

About twelve oClock this day we were all alarmed by the approach of a Boat to Winnissint Ferry & by a Signal soon found them to be friends who Landed with their Household good there ware several of my Intimate acquaintance I have taken the names of all the Passengers and stop'd the Letters which I now Send for your Inspection & Beg your Excellency would Send them Back to me again as soon as possible as the Bairers are some of them in weighting and others are to Call again tomorrow for theirs Please to Keep the Inclosed Letters in their Respective Covers.

I would Beg your Excellency would Send me some Assistance as the Boats are to Continue passing (*That is if we can believe General Gage*) and Somthing may Escape for want of Proper assistance that may turn to our disadvantag

Our officers are very sick here I have much upon my hands & mind, sinc I Rec'd Mr Reed Letter last Night. Hope & Earnestly Expect some assistance and your Excellencies Orders as soon as the necessity of the mater Requires

I great hast I am Sir your Excellences most Obedient Humb<sup>r</sup> Servt

LOAMMI BALDWIN Lie Col

P. S. Should be much Oblig'd to your Excellency if you would Send down a few Sheets of Paper & Wafers as I cannot Procure any about here and am out.

Pray Sir Excuse the Imperfections in this leter

July y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup>

A Return of the Observations of the Day

At 9 oclock a Schooner Came in from Sea into Boston and anchored a bove the Castel and 3 Boats went from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men. and at 12 oclock 2 Ships Came in to Nantasket Road from Sea.

At 2 oclock a Schooner went out to Sea from Boston and 2 Boats from Boston went up to the floting Batteries laden with men and Returned to Boston empty.

At 2 oclock a Schooner went to Sea and 2 Boats Came from Boston to the Ferry with the inhabitants and Return to Boston in order for More.

At 3 oclock 4 Boats went over from Boston to Charlestown Neck with Men.

[ORDERS.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 29<sup>th</sup> 1775.

Parole, Dartmouth.

Counter sign, Corke.

A Serjeant and six Men to parade at the Head quarters at eleven oClock, to escort certain prisoners and Deserters to Worcester, this party to be victualled for this day and to morrow: The Serjeant will receive his orders from the Adjutant Gen<sup>t</sup>

Mr Benjamin Whiting tried by a Court of enquiry ordered in the General Orders of the 27<sup>th</sup> Instant, whereof Lieut<sup>t</sup> Col James Brichatt was president; The Court having maturely considered the Evidence, for and against the Prisoner, as well as what the Prisoner had to offer in his defence, are of opinion that the prisoner is not guilty of the Crime laid to his charge, and do therefore acquit the prisoner: The General therefore orders the prisoner to be released.

James M'Daniel, tried by a General Court martial, whereof Col Glover was President for "forgeing an Order of General Putnams to obtain a quart of Rum, and for abusive Language to Col Gridley" and ordered to receive twenty Lashes. The General confirms the sentence, and orders it to be executed after prayer time to morrow.

James Foster of Capt Butlers Company in Col Nixon's regiment, tried by the same General Court Martial for "robning Dr Foster, Surgeon of the General Hospital" found guilty of the charge, is sentenced to receive thirty-nine Lashes, and suffer one Month's fatigue. The General approves the Sentence, and orders it to be put in execution, at the Head of the Regiment, after prayer time to morrow morning.

William Winslow of Capt Perkins's Company of Artillery tried by the same Court Martial for "stealing a Cannon Cartridge of powder", is acquitted.

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 30<sup>th</sup> 1775.

Parole, *Essex*.

Counter sign, *Dublin*.

William Tudor Esqr being appointed Judge Advocate of the Continental Army, he is in all things relative to his Office, to be acknowledged and obey'd as such. The Drummers & Fifers of the Regiment in and about Cambridge, are to be order'd constantly to attend the Drum and Fife Major, at the usual hours for instruction.

*Continental Congress, No. 152, Vol. 1, f. 79; No. 169, Vol. 1, f. 22.*

TO GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY.

CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE July 31<sup>st</sup> 1775

SIR

I have Considerd the Application\* made me yesterday, from the General Court, with all the attention due to the situation of the People in whose Behalf it is made, & the Respect due to such a Recommendation.

Upon referring to my Instructions and Consulting with those Members of Congress who are present as well as the General Officers; they all agree that it would not be consistent with my duty to detach any Part of the Army now here on any Particular Provincial Service. It has been debated in Congress and Settled that the Militia or other Internal Strength of each Province is to be applied for Defence against those Small and Particular Depredations which were to be expected, & to which they were supposed to be Competent. This will appear the more proper, when it is Consider'd that every Town & indeed every Part of our Sea Coast which is exposed to these Depredations would have an equal Claim upon this Army: It is the misfortune of our situation which exposes us to these Ravages, against which in my Judgment no such Temporary relief would possibly secure us. The great Advantage the Enemy has of Transporting Troops by being Masters of the Sea will enable them to harrass us by Diversions of this kind; and should we be tempted to pursue them upon every Alarm, The Army must either be so weaken'd as

\*In House of Representatives July 29<sup>th</sup>, 1775—Resolved, that Doct<sup>r</sup> Church, Mr Woodbridge and Mr Sewall, with such as the Honble Board shall join, be a Committee to wait on his Excellency General Washington, & inform him of the distress'd Situation of the Inhabitants of the Eastern parts of the Colony; and know of him, if he can, Consistent with his Instructions, and the General Service, order a Detachment there, to prevent the Enemy from Ravaging the Country, and plundering the Inhabitants of their Cattle, Sheep, Wood &c; to Supply—themselves.

to

to Expose it to Destruction or a great Part of the Coast be still left unprotected:

Nor indeed does it appear to me that such a Pursuit would be attended with the least Effect: The first notice of such an Incursion would be its actual Execution; and long before any Troops could reach the Scene of Action. The Enemy would have an Opportunity to Accomplish their Purpose & retire. It would give me great Pleasure to have it in my Power to extend Protection and Safety to every Individual, but the Wisdom of the General Court will Anticipate me in the Necessity of Conducting our Operations on a General and Impartial Scale, so as to exclude any first Cause of Complaint and Jealousy.

I beg Sir you will do me the Honour to Communicate these Sentiments to the General Court and to Apologize for my Involuntary Delay: As we were alarm'd this Morning by the Enemy & my Time taken up with giving the Necessary Directions.

I shall be happy in every Opportunity of shewing my very great Respect and Regard for the General Court of Massachusetts Bay.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6, f. 163.*

FROM NICHOLAS COOKE.

PROVIDENCE July 31<sup>st</sup>. 1775

SIR

I am favored with your Excellency's Letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> instant; having just before the Receipt of it had Accounts by a private Hand of the Sailing of a Number of Men of War and Transports from Boston; which I conjectured were designed to supply the Enemy with fresh Provisions. I immediately sent the Intelligence to Block Island together with a Quantity of Powder, Ball and Flint to enable them to defend their Property, and gave them Assurances of further Assistance if necessary.

We have no Accounts of this Fleet from any Part of our Coast; so that I think it probable they were destined to the Eastward.

I desire your Excellency to oblige me with a Return of the Army; and when any Thing of Importance occurs I shall esteem an early Communication of it a Favour.

I am with great Truth and Regard, Sir

Your Excellency's Most humble and most obedient Servant

NICHO COOKE.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 169.

FROM GENERAL SCHUYLER.

TICONDEROGA July 31<sup>st</sup> 1775

DEAR GENERAL

Since my last I have been most assiduously employed in preparing Materials for building boats to Convey me across the Lake the progress has hitherto been slow as with few hands I had all the Timber to Cut, Mills to repair to Saw the plank, and my draught Cattle extreamly weak for want of feed the drought having Scorched up Every kind of Herbage. I have now one boat on Stocks which I hope will carry near three hundred men. another is putting up to day. provisions of the Bread kind are scarce with me and therefore I have not dared to order up a thousand men that are at Albany least we should starve here.

I have had no Intelligence from Canada since my last to you. Major Brown has been gone nine days and I expect him back if all is well by Saturday next.

August 2<sup>d</sup>

I have not had a return from General Wooster since my Arrival I am therefore under the necessity of making you a return of the troops here only.

Inclose your Excellency Copy of two affidavits made by persons from Canada. I have transmitted other Copy's to the Congress.

I am extreamly anxious to hear from your part of the world. reports prevail that a body of troops have left Boston and are gone to Canada. If so I fear we shall not be able to penetrate Into Canada, or even Attack St Johns with Success, tho at all Events I am ordered to go there.

I am Your Excellency's Most Obedient & Most Hum<sup>e</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

PH: SCHUYLER

I wish I could make you a regular return even of the troops at this place and Crown point, but I have not yet got these people to be regular in anything and therefore beg you to dispence with the following state<sup>t</sup>—Fit for duty, 1 Colonel 3 Majors 9 Captains 1 Captain Lieutenant 21 Subalterns 34 Serjeants 18 Drums and fifes, 933 Rank and file 1 Chaplain 2 Adjutants 1 Quartermaster 1 Surgeon & 2 Mates. Sick—1 Lieutenant 4 Serjeants 2 Drums 103 Rank and file.

[Answered August 15.]

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 167.

FROM JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

LEBANON 31<sup>st</sup> July 1775.

SIR,

By the Resolve in Congress of the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, it is recommended to the New England Colonies to compleat the Deficiencies in the Regiments belonging to them respectively.

I have

I have not been informed of any Deficiency in the Number of Troops sent from Connecticut. It is recommended also to this Colony to compleat and send forward to the Camp before Boston as soon as possible the fourteen hundred men lately voted by our Assembly. The 25 instant I sent orders to the Colonels of the last raised Regiments, to march forthwith to the Camp before Boston, by subdivisions if all were not in readiness. Expect many of the Companies will begin their March this Day. And that the whole will move forward very soon.

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> President Hancock in his Favour of the 22<sup>nd</sup> instant informs That you had recomended, and the Congress have appointed M<sup>r</sup> Joseph Trumbull Commissary General of the American Army. I am also informed that you have taken M<sup>r</sup> John Trumbull into your Service and Family. These instances of kindness shewn them justly claim my most grateful acknowledgements: A performance of their Duty answerable to your Expectation, will meet your approbation and continuance of Regard, and afford me peculiar satisfaction and Pleasure.

The Rose, Swan, and King Fisher Ships of War, with a smal Tender the 26<sup>th</sup> instant came into the Harbour at New London, on the 27<sup>th</sup>. some men landed near the Light House, broke off the nutts and plugged up with old Files three or four Cannon they sailed out again on Friday last. It is reported M<sup>r</sup> Collector Stuart is packing up his effects, in Order to Leave that Port.

I am, with great Truth and Regard

Your Excellency's most obedient and humble Servant

JONTH: TRUMBULL

[Answered by Major Johnson.]

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6, f. 161-162.*

[INTELLIGENCE.]

CHELSEA July 31<sup>st</sup> 1775

May it Please your Excellency

This covers the Observations of part of yesterday & today

Should be glad to know in what manner I am to proceed with the people that come out of Boston, in order to prevent there going into Camp.

two boats only have come with Passengers from Boston this Day. the first Brought Col<sup>n</sup> Ingersoll who informed me that there was one Regular Officer & Several other persons badly wounded brought to Boston Just as he came away which was about Eight or Nine oClock A. M. and that there went from Boston in the Night meaning Last night a large number of Granedears & Light Infantry in larg flat bottom Boats for the Southward Shore it was suposd

I should be glad to know your Excellencyes Pleasure with regard to all the letters that come out of Boston whether my Inspection should be sufficient to let any pass that I should think proper or whether you would chuse to see them all yourself.

There are People now waiting to know your Excellencyes Answer that want to proceed into the Country Suppose if they pass me as a number did before I had your Order they may if they are so dispos'd go into the Camps and I am now obliged to let them go about among the neighbour for supot as they Brought nothing of that nature with them

I would Inform your Excelency that I was up and with my Men upon the Hills neighest our Enemy part of last night & this morning till the Sun 2 or 3 hours high and watch'd them Very critically but could not discover any thing Worth troubling your Excelency about

I am your Excellencyes most Obedient Serv<sup>t</sup>

LAOMMI BALDWIN Liu Colo

I send the letters that I have stop'd today hop I shall Receive them by the hand of the Bearer with your directions

July

July 31

## A Return of the Observations of the Day

At 3 o'clock Yesterday one Ship went to Sea From Boston and at 4 13 Boats went from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men and horses

From 6 to 8 this Morning 2 Ships went to Sea and stood to the Eastward and 8 Boats from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men and a Bout 7 o'clock an armed Ship went down to Long island and 6 Boats From Charlestown went over to Boston with whimen at 10 one Ship Bound out 4 Boats Coming from Long island to the Castel.

At 11 o'clock one Brig went to Sea

From 12 to 2 o'clock 40 Boats Laden with men went from Boston to Charlestown and the Sloop that went Down in the Morning is at Nantasket Road.

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1775.Parole, *Falkland.*Counter sign *Edenton.*

The Continental Congress having been pleased to appoint Joseph Trumbull Esqr to be Commissary General to the army of the United Colonies: All Commissaries heretofore appointed by any of the distinct Colony Congresses, or by particular Authority of any particular district or colony, are forthwith to make an exact Return of the provisions, and all the different Species of provisions, they have in, or near the Camps, at Cambridge and Roxbury; thereupon Commissary Gen<sup>l</sup> Trumbull being assured by the report of his Clerk, assistant, or from his own examination, that such Return is just and true, is to give his Receipt for the quantity deliver'd into his hands, which receipt will be a good Voucher, in the passing the accownt of the different Colony Commissaries, heretofore appointed, and will be allowed as such.

The Commissaries, at present appointed by the several Colonies; are forthwith to make up their Accounts unto the third of August inclusive; ready to be laid before the Commander in Chief, and by him transmitted to the Continental Congress; or to be adjusted and finally settled by him, as the Continental Congress shall think proper to direct.

A Return signed by the Commanding Officers of regiments and Corps, to be delivered to the Adjutant General to morrow morning, at general orderly time, of the Names, Ranks & Dates of the Officer's Commissions, in their respective Regiments and Corps, mentioning also the Vacancies, and how occasioned.

A General Court Martial to sit immediately, to try Captain Christopher Gardner, of Col Varnums Regiment for "Cowardice, abandoning his post and deserting his men." All Evidences and persons concern'd to attend the court.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6, f. 173.*

FROM ELBRIDGE GERRY.

CHAMBER OF SUPPLIES WATERTOWN Aug' 1. 1775

May It please your Excellency

Mr. Cheever has applied this afternoon for 200,000 small arm Cartridges in Consequence of an Application from y<sup>e</sup> Adjutant General, to answer y<sup>e</sup> Demand of Major General Lee.

Mr. Cheever is able to furnish abt 36000 It being y<sup>e</sup> whole Quantity now made, & there remains but 36 barells in Store of y<sup>e</sup> Quantity collected from y<sup>e</sup> Towns in this Colony & recd from the others this side Maryland.

there are also about two Tons of Lead & not any Flints in Store, of which We think it necessary to give immediate Information.

We are in daily expectation of some Powder from y<sup>e</sup> West Indies, but cannot say what success our plan will meet with; indeed We have exerted ourselves to obtain It several Ways which may be communicated at a more convenient

convenient opportunity. With respect to Lead & Flints Col<sup>o</sup> porter was despatched sixteen Days since for New York for 2 hh<sup>d</sup> Flints and 10 Tons Lead but we have heard nothing from him since. We are ready to exert to y<sup>e</sup> utmost to serve y<sup>e</sup> Cause, provided y<sup>e</sup> Commissary General desires it for y<sup>e</sup> present. the powder shall be sent immediately if ordered or be made into Cartridges as soon as may be.

We are Sir respectfully your most ob Ser<sup>ts</sup>

ELBRIDGE GERRY pres.

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*Letters to Washington, Vol. 6, f. 175.*

FROM RICHARD HENRY LEE.

PHILADELPHIA 1<sup>st</sup> August 1775

DEAR SIR,

After the fatigue of many days, and of this in particular, I should not sit down at eleven oClock at night to write to a Gentleman of whose goodness of heart I have less doubt than I have of yours. But well knowing that you will pardon what flows from good intentions, I venture to say that my hopes are, you will find from what the Congress has already done, and from what I hope they will do tomorrow, that it has been a capital object with us to make your arduous business as easy to you as the nature of things will admit. The business immediately before us being finished, the approaching sickly season here, and the great importance of our presence in the Virg<sup>a</sup> Convention, have determined a recess of a Month, it standing now, that the Congress shall meet here again on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. The capital object of powder we have attended to as far as we could by sending you the other day six Tons, and tomorrow we shall propose sending six or eight Tons more; which, with the supplies you may get from Connecticut, and such further ones from here, as future expected importations may furnish, will I hope enable you to do all that this powerful article can in good hands accomplish. We understand here, that Batteries may be constructed at the entrance of the Bay of Boston so as to prevent the egress & regress of any Ships whatever. If this be fact, would it not Sir be a signal stroke to secure the Fleet & Army in and before Boston so as to compel a surrender at discretion. While I write this I assure you my heart is elated with the contemplation of so great an event. A decisive thing, that would at once end the War, and vindicate the injured liberties of America. But your judgement, and that of your brave Associates, will best determine the practicability of this business. I think we have taken the most effectual measures to secure the friendship of the Indians all along our extensive frontiers, and by what we learn of the Spirit of our Convention, now sitting at Richmond, a Spirit prevails there very sufficient to secure us on that quarter. The particulars of their conduct I refer you to M<sup>r</sup>. Frazer for, who comes fresh from thence, & who goes to the Camp a Soldier of fortune—You know him better than I do, and I am sure you will provide for him as he deserves.

We

We are here as much in the dark about news from England as you are, the London Ships having been detained long beyond the time they were expected. The indistinct accounts we have, tell us of great confusion all over England, and a prodigious fall of the Stocks. I heartily wish it may be true, but if it is not so now, I have no doubt of its shortly being the case.

I will not detain you longer from more important affairs, than to beg the favor of you, when your leisure permits, to oblige me with a line by Post, to let us know how you go on.

There is nothing I wish so much as your success, happiness, and safe return to your family and Country, because I am with perfect sincerity dear Sir

Your affectionate friend and countryman

RICHARD HENRY LEE

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 89, f. 16.*

[IN CONGRESS.]

AUGUST 1, 1775—PHILADELPHIA.

*Resolved* That the Sum of Five hundred Thousand Dollars be immediately forwarded from the Continental Treasury to the Pay Master General to be Applied to the Use of the Army in Massachusetts Bay in such manner as General Washington, as the Commander in Chief for the Time being, by his Warrants shall Limit and Appoint—And if the above Sum shall be Expended before the next meeting of the Congress, then, that, General Washington be impow'd to Draw upon the Continental Treasury for the Sum of Two hundred Thousand Dollars in favour of the Pay Master General to be Applied for the Use & in the manner above mention'd.

*Order'd*, That the Delegates for Pennsylvania be a Committee to Receive & Count the above Sum of Five hundred Thousand Dollars & forward the same under the Care of the Delegates for the Massachusetts Bay, provided so much is now ready in the Treasury, if that is not the case, then to Recieve Count & forward by the said Delegates what is Ready, and the Remainder by the first Opportunity in the safest & best manner.

By Order of the Congress.

JOHN HANCOCK President

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 89, f. 22.*

STATE OF APPOINTMENTS & PAY ORDER'D BY THE CONGRESS.

		Dollars.
1 General & Commander in Chief.....	allow <sup>ee</sup> <sup>P</sup> Month..	500
4 Major Generals, each .....	" " "	166
The Major General acting in separate Departm <sup>t</sup> .....	" " "	332
8 Brigadiers General .....	" " "	125
1 Adjutant General .....	" " "	125
1 Deputy Adjutant General.....	" " "	50
1 Commissary General of Stores & provisions .....	" " "	80
1 Deputy Ditto.....	" " "	60
1 Quarter Master General.....	" " "	80
1 Deputy Ditto.....	" " "	40
2 Chief Engineers, each .....	" " "	60
4 Assistants Ditto, each.....	" " "	20
Aid DeCamp, each.....	" " "	33
1 Secretary to the General .....	" " "	66
1 D <sup>r</sup> to the Major General in separate Departm <sup>t</sup> .....	" " "	33
1 Commissary General of the Musters.....	" " "	40
1 Deputy Ditto.....	" " "	40
5 Brigade Majors, Ditto .....	" " "	33
		1 Commissary

1 Commissary of Artillery.....	allowee	Per Month..	30
1 Judge Advocate .....	"	" "	20
Colonell .....	"	" "	50
Lieur Colonell .....	"	" "	40
Major .....	"	" "	33 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Captain .....	"	" "	20
Lieutenant .....	"	" "	13 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Ensign.....	"	" "	10
Serjeant.....	"	" "	8
Corporal .....	"	" "	7 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Drummers & Fifers, each.....	"	" "	7 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Privates, each.....	"	" "	6 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Adjutant .....	"	" "	18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Quarter Master.....	"	" "	18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Chaplain .....	"	" "	20
Light Infantry same pay as in the Regiment.			
Artillery, Viz <sup>t</sup> Captain.....	"	" "	26 <sup>2</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Captain Lieut <sup>t</sup> .....	"	" "	20
1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant.....	"	" "	18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
2 <sup>d</sup> Ditto.....	"	" "	18 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Lieut <sup>t</sup> Fire Worker.....	"	" "	13 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Serjeant.....	"	" "	8 <sup>1</sup> <sub>3</sub>
Corporal.....	"	" "	7 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>
Bombardier.....	"	" "	7
Matrosses .....	"	" "	6 <sub>5</sub>

That the Appointment of Provost Marshall, Waggon Master, & Master Carpenter be left to the Commander in Chief of the Army, & that their pay be left to the Commander in Chief of the Army, and that the General have the Appointment of other necessary persons in inferior Stations, & that their pay be left to the General, he observing the same proportion, that the pay of the Officers in the Ministerial Army bears to the pay of our officers.

Mt Michael Hillegras & M<sup>r</sup> George Clymer appointed Continental Treasurers.

Colonell Thompson Commanding the Battalion of Rifle Men Rais'd in the province of Pensylvania has had an Advance of Five Thousand Dollars for the use of that Battalion, he to be Accountable to the General & the Pay Master, that the proper Stoppage be made.

James Warren Esq<sup>r</sup> Appointed Pay Master General Jon<sup>a</sup> Trumbull Jun<sup>r</sup> Esq<sup>r</sup> Pay Mast in York Departm<sup>t</sup> Benjamin Church Jun<sup>r</sup> appointed Director & Chief Physician of the Hospitals.

By order of the Congress.

JOHN HANCOCK President.

*Letters of Washington. Orders to Officers. B. Vol. 1, No. 2,*

ORDERS FOR THE OFFICER COMMANDING THE DETACHMENTS GOING ON COMMAND TO WORCESTER WITH PRISONERS TAKEN FROM THE ENEMY.

You are to proceed with the Detachment under your Command to Worcester, taking under your care Two Serjeants, Two Corporals & Twenty One Private Soldiers of the Ministerial Army. And Twelve Torys, who have been aiding and abetting General Gage and his adherents; you are to deliver them to the Chairman of the Committee, at Worcester who is hereby enjoin'd to Order a Detachment from the Militia of that Town, to Escort them to Springfield. And deliver them to the Committee there; where they are to be secur'd, so as to be forthcoming whenever an Exchange of prisoners, or a happy reconciliation between Great Britain and her Colonies shall take place. Given at Head Quarters at Cambridge this 1<sup>st</sup> day of August 1775.

HORATIO GATES,  
Adjutant General

N. B. one of the Marines Left Wounded at Cambridge, which reduces that number to Twenty private.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 171.

FROM LAOMMI BALDWIN.

CHELSEA Augt. 1. 1775

SIR,

I am just informed that there was this forenoon about 1400 regulars paraded in Boston, and afterwards marched out in order to go over to Charlestown Heights as they call Bunker hill. Suppose they are all over before this time. Another person told me there was not more than 1000 men, and that they were going to reinforce Bunker hill.

Send the observations as usual. It gives me unspeakable satisfaction that my conduct is approved of by the General. Nothing that lies in my power to perform shall be wanting to render his Excellency's command easy and life happy. That success & victory may attend his endeavor, is the sincere wish of his & y<sup>r</sup> Honor's most humble serv<sup>t</sup>,

LOAMMI BALDWIN Lt Col.

P. S. I trust you will give the enclosed to the General.

[ INTELLIGENCE.]

august 1<sup>st</sup>

A Return of the Observations of the Day From 3 o'clock Yesterday to 8 7 Boats went from Boston to Charlestown with horses and Men.

From 4 to 6 in the Morning 3 Boats from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men. at 8 oClock 9 Boats Laden with Men.

From 8 to 12 one small Schooner Came in from Sea and 3 Boats from Long Island Came to Boston

At 1 o'clock a Boat Came from Boston with the inhabantance to the ferry here

At 2 o'clock 5 Boats from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men and horses and one Boat from Boston to Winnesimit ferry with the inhabantance

*Continental Congress, No. 152, Vol. 1, f. 83: No. 169, Vol. 1, f. 24.*

FROM BELCHER NOYES TO NATHANIEL NOYES.

BOSTON August 1. 1775.

MY DEAR SON

Have received no Letter from you since May 27. which I duly Answ<sup>d</sup> 3 June by Mr<sup>s</sup> Wail. I wrote you May 25. both which hope came safe to your hands. Since the Battle at Charlestown some conjecture the Destruction of this Town is intended, for what purpose can't determine. We are now got to the Beginning of August and nothing turns up in favor of America. The General Talk now is that the English Troops are going to leave this Town, this seems evident from several things that are taking place; Vizt<sup>t</sup>: General Gage's family are going to England: Mess<sup>rs</sup> Auchmuty, Sewall &c. & others of that Stamp are going some to England and else where. I am pretty Confident the Army can't be Supported in this Town the ensuing Winter. Provisions Scarce and bad, no fuel, nor Money. People are Jealous they will plunder and demolish the Town when they go off. Last Week there was a Notification posted up, that all those who were desirous to leave the Town to give in their Names to James Urquhart Town Major, & in two days time upwards of 2000 entered their Names, & passes are now granted with this Adition to the former restriction—viz<sup>t</sup>. No Plate of any kind, nor more money than £5 Sterling. The rout is by way of Winnisimmett, Several have gone off by which

which means have an Opportunity of writing you. I have it in my mind to go to Mr Little's at Newbury in Case I can accomplish it. I shall place Somebody in the House in Order to Secure your Effects which I wish you had taken with you, or disposed of them before you went away. I have been Jealous they will be seized, for they have Served Several Persons that have left the Town after this Sort, this has given me great Anxiety. On the receipt of this endeavour to write me your Mind. Mr Welles the Mason lives at Chelsea by which means a Letter may be convey'd, be cautious what you write—this will facilitate my intentions & if you want any thing to be sent among our things it can be done. I shall depend on your Assistance and Advice, If I can go to Newbury thro' Andover will call and see you in our Way. Not knowing where Capt Little may be I write him & enclose you to forward which desire you to do with all Speed.

The Dysentery has prevail'd in this Town & been very mortal especially among Children also among the Soldiers of whom near 30 are buried in a Week as the Sextons say. Dr Byles Sen<sup>r</sup> buried his Wife last Wednesday. No Bells are permitted to toll for any Funerals on Account of the Sickness and Mortality among the Soldiers. Out of Ninety Officers, wounded above half have died, Several persons of Figure and Character vizt. One Coll<sup>r</sup> and Three Majors. There is no harmony.

Lately Arrived a Vessel from New Providence by whom I heard of your Brother's Welfare, but no Letter, others inform me he is in a poor State of Health and inclined to a Consumption have wrote him Several Letters by Vessells lately gone for Provisions for the Army and Navy. I am fearful what I shall hear from him. My determination depends on hearing from you which I desire may be as soon as possible. I intend to propose to Mr Keif or some other suitable Person to take the house in Case I leave Boston, shall take the Best Care I can of your Furniture but if the Town is to be demolished, it will be needless. The Custom of the Shop has been but trifling, some days Scarce a penny. The Light House was burnt as it is said by Order of ye Continental Congress, and in Return for that Compliment they are dismounting Castle William, I believe for want of Men to defend it. Since April 19. there have died of the Army including what were Slain in Battle June 17. near 2500, so that what Troops have arrived will not make good their Loss. But I dare not enlarge. Our Anxiety at times has been great for you as well as ourselves. We constantly bear you on our Minds and remember you in Our Prayers to Almighty God and hope the best of Covenant Blessings will be the Portion for you and your Consort.

We are your Affectionate pt

N  
B. " A.

Dyed in ye Town

June 5. John Borland Esq<sup>r</sup>

22 Eliakem Hutchinson Esq<sup>r</sup> of ye Small Pox

July 12 Phillip Cooke

14. John Cotton Esq<sup>r</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Secretary

23. Wife of Doctr Byles Sen<sup>r</sup>

Ruth Bulfinch—at 79

Andrew Fanuel Phillips

P. S. Since I finished this Letter, Passes are deny'd to Men, without Special Leave  
Seal the enclosed and forward

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, August 1<sup>st</sup> 1775

Parole, *Gibraltar.*

Countersign, *Fairfield.*

The General thanks Major Tupper, and the Officers and Soldiers under his Command, for their gallant and soldier-like behaviour, in possessing themselves of the enemy's post at the Light House, and for the Number of Prisoners they took there, and doubts not, but the Continental Army, will be as famous for their mercy as for their valour.

Two

Two Sub<sup>s</sup> two serjeants, one Drum and thirty Rank and File, to parade at Head Quarters at Noon; to escort the prisoners to Worcester. The Commanding Officer will receive his orders from the Adjutant General.

For the satisfaction of all concerned; The General directs the following Resolution of the Legislature of this Colony to be inserted in General Orders. viz:

"IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

"WATERTOWN 29<sup>th</sup> July 1775.

"Whereas sundry Complaints have been made, by some of the Soldiers raised by this Colony, that they have not received the allowance pay of Forty Shillings, agreeable to the Resolution of Provincial Congress, therefore Resolved, that a Committee be appointed forthwith, to apply to the Colonels of the several Regiments, raised by the Colony, and to the Muster Masters and Pay Masters in the Camp, at Cambridge and Roxbury; and obtain of them a complete List of the Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, in their respective regiments, distinguishing those that have been muster'd and paid; from those that have not, that such Methods may be pursued, as shall remove all just ground of Complaint—read and ordered, that Colonel Cushing and M<sup>r</sup> Webster, with such as the Honorable Board shall join be a Committee for the purpose above mentioned.

"Sent up for concurrence.

"JAMES WARREN, Speaker.

"In Council, read and concurred, and Col Lincoln is join'd.

"ALBT P: MORTON, Secy."

The Officers commanding Massachusetts Regiments, will pay all due Attention to the foregoing resolution.

One Man a Company, to be appointed a Camp Colour man, from every Company in every Regiment in the Army, whose particular duty it must be to attend the Quarter Master and Quarter Master Serjeant, to sweep the streets of their respective encampments, to fill up the old Necessary Houses and dig new ones, to bury all Offal, Filth, and Nastiness, that may poison or infect the health of the Troops; and the Quarter Masters are to be answerable, to their Commanding Officers for a strict observance of this order, and by persevering in the constant and unremitting Execution thereof, remove that odious reputation, which (with but too much reason) has stigmatised the Character of American Troops. The Colonels and Commanding Officers of Regiments, are to be answerable to the General, for all due obedience to this order.

The General finding it is not uncustomary, for Officers to take the Liberty, of absenting themselves from Camp without leave, and going home; for the future, any Officer found guilty of so glaring an offence, against all Order and Discipline, and setting so bad an Example to the Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers, under their Command; such Officer or Officers so offending, may depend upon being punish'd with the utmost severity.

Least the late successes against the Enemy, should occasion any relaxation in the Alertness of the Troops, the General recommends it in the strongest manner, to all the Officers and Soldiers of the Continental Army; to be the more vigilant in their duty, and watchful of the enemy; as they certainly will take every advantage of any supineness on our part.

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*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 181.

FROM GENERAL SULLIVAN.

WINTER HILL August 2<sup>d</sup> 1775

May it Please Your Excellency

I have Examined into the State of the Ammunition in my Department & find Remaining in the Magazine of the Powder Supplied from New Hampshire 19 Barrels of 100 w<sup>t</sup> each, Scarcely any Ball, & no flint except what the Soldiers are possessed of: They are in General well Provided with ammunition for one Ingagement we have 50 Rounds of Cartridges to Each Cannon that is mounted, which is all the Ammunition for the Brigade assigned To

Your Excellencies most obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

JN<sup>o</sup> SULLIVAN

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 179.

FROM ELBRIDGE GERRY.

CHAMBER OF SUPPLIES WATERTOWN August 2<sup>d</sup> 1775

May it please your Excellency

Col<sup>o</sup> parker is just arrived from New York & has so far succeeded in his Business that abt 80,000 Flints & eight Tons of Lead are expected here Saturday next: It arrived at Hartford Sunday & Monday last.

Col<sup>o</sup> Campbell y<sup>r</sup> Deputy Quartermaster informed Col<sup>o</sup> porter at New York that fifteen hogsheads of powder had arrived there & that he should give your Excellency immediate Notice thereof.

I apprehend We can have half a Ton Lead cast into Ball a Day, being provided with Moulds sized from 16 to 32 Balls to y<sup>e</sup> pound. perhaps twice that Quantity on Emergency.

Col<sup>o</sup> Burbeck recd 16 half barells powder this Morning, before y<sup>r</sup> Committee were apprized of it by y<sup>r</sup> Agent of Supplies; but we have given orders for stopping all y<sup>r</sup> ammunition unless expressly ordered by your Excellency.

Col<sup>o</sup> porter is desired to wait on you this afternoon & We remain with great Respect sir your most ob<sup>t</sup> Ser

ELBRIDGE GERRY pres.

P. S. Orders are to go to the Qarm immediately for powder.

P. S. The subject of a Letter last Evening was of such a Nature that Mr. Cheever was not made acquainted therewith, which We mention to your Excellency that your Mind may be easy with respect to y<sup>e</sup> Seerecy of it

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 109, f. 9.

[IN COUNCIL.]

AUGUST 2<sup>d</sup> 1775

Ordered, that Mr Greenleaf, Mr Winthrop & Mr Palmer be a Committee, to wait on his Excellency, General Washington, and to request him to inform this Board of the Extent of the Powers, delegated to him by the Honourable Continental Congress.

a True Copy, Att<sup>t</sup>

PEREZ MORTON

Secr<sup>y</sup> pro temp:

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 177-178.

[INTELLIGENCE.]

CHELSEA Aug. 2<sup>d</sup>. 1775

May it Please your Excellency

Inclasd are the Observations taken by the Sentinel posted upon Powder horn Hill and also two Letters in one Cover Directed to Mr Nathl. Noyes, Andover, which I thought Proper to Send for your Excellencies Perusal.

Nothing Extraordinary has hapened sence yesterday Two Boats only have Come over Passengers from Boston this day

I am your Excellencys most Obediant HUMB<sup>E</sup> Servt.

LOAMMI BALDWIN Lieut Col<sup>o</sup>

Aug<sup>t</sup>. 2<sup>d</sup>. 1775

A Return of the observations of the Day august y<sup>e</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>

From 2 to 4 yesterday 14 Boats past from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men and 6 Returning empty

From 4 to 8 16 Boats went over to Charlestown Laden and saw one Ship standing in from Sea.

At 6 this Morning a Ship and a Brig Came in from Sea and 3 Boats went From Boston to Charlestown Neck Laden with Men.

At

w. p.—6

At 9 one Schooner Came in from Sea at 10 3 Boats Laden with Men from Boston to Charlestown.

At 11 o'clock 9 Boats went from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men and 11 Returned to Boston Laden and Sat a bidding on fire at penny ferry

At 2 o'clock 2 Boats Came from Boston to the ferry with the inhabitanice 10 Boats from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men and at 4 o'clock 9 Return to Boston with Men and one floting Battery Coming Down Cambridge River

[ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 1775

Parole, *Hallifax.*

Counter sign, *Geneva.*

Cap<sup>t</sup> Oliver Parker of Col Prescots Regiment, tried by a General Court Martial whereof Col Glover was President, for "defrauding his men of their advance pay, and by false Returns, imposing upon the Commissary, and drawing more Rations than he had men in his company, and for selling the provisions he by that means obtained" is by the Court found guilty of the whole charge against him and sentenced to be cashiered, mulcted of all his pay and rendered incapable of future service.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Christopher Gardner of Col Varnums regiment, in the Rhode Island Brigade, tried by a General Court martial, whereof Col Thomas Church was president, for "deserting his post," is found guilty of the Crime, and unanimously sentenced to be cashiered, as incapable of serving his country in any military capacity.

The General approves both the above Sentences, and orders the Commanding Officers of the Regiments, to see the prisoners dismissed the army.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 109, f. 10.

FROM THE NEW YORK PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.

NEW YORK Aug<sup>t</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1775

SIR.

We are informed in a Letter from the Continental Congress that the General would make out the Commissions for our Regiments to such Persons as this Congress should recommend; but are at a loss to know whether you, or General Schuyler are to issue the Commissions.

We understand however that they have been transmitted to you. If this should be the Case, and the Commissions are to be filled up by General Schuyler, We beg you will send them to him or us without Delay. If they are to be filled up by your Excellency, we submit it, whether, to prevent Delay, it would not be proper to send them in blank to General Schuyler, or to us, that the Names may be filled up agreeable to the Arrangement made by this Congress. The number of Commissions wanted will be about two hundred. We are with the greatest Respect Your Excellency's Most Obedient humble Servants

By Order.

P. V. B. LIVINGSTON President.

*Letters to Washington.* Vol. 6, f. 182.

FROM MOSES BLOOMFIELD.

WOODBRIDGE, New Jersey 3<sup>d</sup>. August 1775

At a General Review of the Regiments of the Northern Division of the County of Middlesex, under the Command of Colonel Nathaniel Heard at the Township of Woodbridge in said County, a certain George Hendrick Fisher, who it appears has no Family or fixed residence in this Country was brought Prisoner under Guard of a body of Men from Piscataway, and

and who it appears has been Guilty of the charges contained in the enclosed Declaration: And at the request of Lieutenant Colonel Dun, Chairman of the Committee of Piscataway, before whom said Fisher was yesterday examined, and convicted. A board was formed consisting of sundry Members of the Committee of Woodbridge, Perth Amboy and Piscataway, who having ordered the Prisoner before them to make his defence and take his Tryal, proceeded to examine and try the Matter and it appearing upon a Candid and Impartial Enquiry that said Fisher is Guilty of the charges proved against him; the united Committees aforesaid Unanimously adopted and confirmed the Opinion of the Committee of Piscataway; and upon Mature deliberation, Order that the said George Hendrick Fisher be sent under a strong Guard to the Company of Rifle Men that left this Town this Morning and by them be carefully escorted to the Camp at Boston, there to remain Prisoner, or to be otherwise dealt with at the discretion of the General Officers; And the said Fisher as a just reward for his insults was ordered into the Field and Drummed out before the Regiment.

Signed by order of the United Committees

MOSES BLOOMFIELD, Ch<sup>a</sup>.

Attest: JOHN CONWAY, Clerk.

*Letters of Washington. F. Vol. 1. No. 2.*

COUNCIL OF WAR.

At a Council held at Cambridge Head Quarters August 3<sup>d</sup> 1775.

Present His Excell<sup>y</sup> General Washington

Major Gen<sup>l</sup> Ward & Lee & Putnam

Brigadier Gen<sup>l</sup> Thomas Heath Spencer Sullivan Green Gates

The General communicated sundry Letters respecting the State of the Ammunition which appears to be far short of the Return made some Time ago, & having explained in what Manner the Mistake had happened desired the Opinion & Advice of the Generals present on this Subject. Upon the Returns now made the whole Stock of the Army at Roxbury & Cambridge & the adjacent Posts consists of 90 Bbbl<sup>s</sup> or thereabouts.

It was proposed to make an Attempt on the Magazine at Halifax where there is Reason to suppose there is a great Quantity of Powder. And upon the Question being severally put it was agreed to by a great Majority, & that the Detachment for this Enterprize consist of 300 Men.

Also to endeavour to collect a Supply from the neighbouring Provinces of New Hampshire, Rhode Island & Connecticut.

*Letters to Washington. Vol. 6, f. 185-186.*

[INTELLIGENCE.]

CHELSEA August 3<sup>d</sup>. 1775

May it Please your Excellency

This covers the observations of the day to this time Two ferry Boats Came on shore at the ferry ways about 12 last night with about 20 Passenger from Boston and the Signal upon Powder horn hill was Just Erected denoting more coming am just going down to the ferry

Nothing Extraordinary Occur'd since I wrote last

I would beg leave to ask your Excellency whether I might attempt to move the old wreck now on the ferry ways which greatly obstructs the Passenger in bringing up their good at Low water.

I am your Excellencys Most Obedeant Humb Servt

LOAMMI BALDWIN Liu Col

A Return of the observations of the Day

august 3<sup>d</sup>

From 4 to 8 yesterday one Ship and a Schooner Came in from Sea at 7 one Brig went to Sea and stood to the Eastward and 4 Boats went to Charlestown Laden with men at 3 this morning 3 Boats went from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men From 3 to 10

\* See Appendix.

o'clock

o'clock 14 Boats went to Charlestown Laden with Men and horses and 7 Returned to Boston with Men at 12 o'clock 11 Boats went from Boston to Charlestown and 2 Ships standing in along from Sea and 2 small Schooners Coming in at 2 o'clock 10 Boats from Boston to Charlestown Laden with Men and 2 Boats from Boston with the inhabitance to the Ferry

## [ORDER.]

HEAD QUARTERS, CAMBRIDGE, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1775.

Parole, *Ireland.*

Counter sign, *Hartford.*

When any plunder is taken from the Enemy (not excepted by the Continental Articles of war) such plunder must be all surrender'd to the Commanding Officer, and as soon as convenient after his arrival at Head Quarters, public Notice must be made, that an Auction will be held in the front of the Encampment for the sale thereof the next day at noon, and the money arising therefrom, is to be equally divided between the Officers and Men, that took it. This Order is not to be construed to extend, to permitting unlawful and irregular plundering; as any Officer, or Soldier, who shall be found guilty thereof, will be punished with the greatest severity.

All the Armourers, belonging to any of the regiments in the three Brigades, posted in the Lines, or in Cambridge, and those employed in the Artillery; to be at Head Quarters by eight oClock, to morrow morning, and none will be entitled to any pay hereafter, who does not attend at that time.

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. I, f. 41; Transcript A, Vol. I, f. 23; Continental Congress, No. 152, Vol. I, f. 51; No. 169, Vol. I, f. 9.*

TO CONGRESS.

CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE August 4<sup>th</sup> 1775

SIR

I am to acknowledge the Receipt of your Favour of the 24<sup>th</sup> July accompanied by 284 Commissions, which are yet much short of the necessary Number. I am much honoured by the Confidence reposed in me of appointing the several Officers recommended in mine of the 10<sup>th</sup> ult.; and shall endeavour to select such Persons, as are best qualified to fill those important Posts.

General Thomas has accepted his Commission & I have heard nothing of his Retirement since, so that I suppose he is satisfied.

In the Renewal of those Commissions some Difficulties occur, in which I should be glad to know the Pleasure of the hon<sup>bl</sup> Congress. The General Officers of the Massachusetts, have Regiments, those of Connecticut, have both Regiments, & Companies, & the other Field Officers have Companies each. From Rhode Island, the General Officer has no Regim<sup>t</sup>, but

but the Field Officers have Companies. But I do not find they have, or expect Pay under more than one Commission. Should the Commissions now to be delivered supercede these different Establishments, there will be a Distinction between General & Field Officers of the same Rank. In Order to put New Hampshire, Massachusetts & Rhode Island upon a Line with Connecticut, it would be necessary to dismiss a Number of Officers in Possession of Commissions, without any Fault of theirs; on the other Hand, to bring the Connecticut Generals, and Field Officers to the same Scale with the others, will add to the Number of Officers, & may be deemed inconsistent with the Terms on which they entered into the Service, altho you add nothing to the Expence, except in the Article of Provisions. Upon the whole, it is a Case, which I would wish the Hon<sup>bl</sup> Congress to consider and determine.

Col. Gridley of this Province, who is at the Head of the Artillery has the Rank of Major Gen<sup>l</sup> from the Provincial Congress. Will it be proper to renew his Commission here in the same Manner? It is proper here to remark, that in this Case he will take Rank of all the Brigadiers General, & even the Majors General, whose Commissions are subsequent in Date, & can answer no good Purpose, but may be productive of many bad Consequences.

These are Matters of some Importance, but I am embarrassed with a Difficulty of a superior kind. The Estimate made in Congress, supposed all the Regiments to be formed upon one Establishment, but they are different in different Provinces; & even vary in the same Province, in some Particulars. In Massachusetts, some Regiments have Ten Companies, others Eleven; The Establishment of the former is 590 Men Officers included, of the latter 649. The Establishment of Rhode Island, & New Hampshire is 590 to a Regiment, Officers included. Connecticut has 1000 Men to a Regiment. Should the Massachusetts Regiments be completed; with the new Levies from Rhode Island & Connecticut and the Riffle Men, the Number will exceed 22,000. If they should not be completed, as each Regiment is fully officer'd, there will be a heavy

heavy Expense to the Publick without an adequate Service. The Reduction of some of them seems to be necessary & yet is a Matter of much Delicacy, as we are situated. I most earnestly request it may be taken into immediate Consideration, & the Time & Mode of doing it, pointed out by the Hon<sup>bl</sup> Congress. By an Estimate I have made, from the General Return, when the new Levies arrive, & the Regiments are completed there will be 24,450 Men on the Pay & Provision of the united Colonies. Some of the recruiting Officers who have been out on that Service, have returned with very little Success, so that we may safely conclude, the Number of 2064 now wanting to complete will rather increase than diminish. There are the Regiment of Artillery consisting of 493 Men, & one under Col. Sergeant who has not received any Commission, altho he had Orders to raise a Regiment from the Provincial Congress here, which are not included in the above Estimate. This last Regiment consists of 234 Men by the last Return, but a Company has since joined.

By adverting to the General Return, which I have the Honour of inclosing (No. 1.<sup>\*</sup>) it will be seen what Regiments are most deficient.

If the Congress does not chuse to point out the particular Regiments, but the Provinces in which the Reduction is to be made, the several Congresses and Assemblies may be the proper Channell to conduct this Business: which I should also conceive the most adviseable, from their better Acquaintance with the Merits, Terms, & Time of Service of the respective Officers. Reducing some Regiments, & with the Privates thereof, filling up others would certainly be the best Method

\*GENERAL RETURN OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED COLONIES COMMANDED BY HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE WASHINGTON ESQUIRE GENERAL AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

HEAD QUARTERS AT CAMBRIDGE, July 29<sup>th</sup> 1775

Massachusetts Bay regiments 26. & 4 Independt companies Connecticut regiments 3. New Hampshire regiments 3. Rhode Island regiments 3.

Total of present commissioned officers, 30 Colonels 31. Lt Colonels, 35 Majors, 289 Captains, 511. Lieutenants 73 Ensigns. Total of present Staff officers 14 Chaplains, 34. Adjutants, 35. 2d Masters, 35 Surgeons, 39 Master—Total of non commissioned officers, 1202 Serjeants, 612. Drums & fifes. Rank and file present fit for duty 13809. Sick present 1330. Sick absent, 1690—on furlough, 287. On Command 692. Total rank & file 16898 Wanting to compleat, 124 Serjeants, 105 Drums and fifes 2079 privates.

HORATIO GATES

Adjutant General.

Col<sup>o</sup> Sargents regiment not included in the above return.

of

of accomplishing this Work, if it were practicable; but the Experiment is dangerous, as the Massachusetts Men under the Priviledge of chusing their own Officers, do not conceive themselves bound if those Officers are disbanded.

As General Gage is making Preparations for Winter, by contracting for Quantities of Coal; it will suggest to us the Propriety of extending our Views to that Season. I have directed that such Huts as have been lately made of Boards, should be done in such a Manner, that if necessary they may serve for covering during the Winter, but I need not enlarge upon the Variety of Necessities such as Clothing, Fuel, &c.— both exceedingly scarce & difficult to be procured, which that Season must bring with it; if the Army, or any considerable Part of it is to remain embodied. From the Inactivity of the Enemy since the Arrival of their whole Reinforcement, their continual Addition to their Lines, & many other Circumstances, I am inclined to think that finding us so well prepared to receive them, the Plan of Operations is varied, & they mean by regular Approaches to bombard us out of our present Line of Defence, or are waiting in Expectation that the Colonies must sink under the Weight of the Expence; or the Prospect of a Winters Campaign, so discourage the Troops as to break up our Army. If they have not some such Expectations, the Issue of which they are determined to wait; I cannot account for the Delay, when their Strength is lessened every Day by Sickness, Desertions, & little Skirmishes.

Of these last, we have had only two worthy of Notice: Having some Reason to suspect they were extending their Lines at Charles Town, I last Saturday Evening, ordered some of the Riffle Men down to make a Discovery, or bring off a Prisoner. They were accidentally discovered sooner than they expected; by the Guard coming to relieve, & obliged to fire upon them: We have Reason to believe they killed several. They brought in two Prisoners whose Acc<sup>t</sup> confirmed by some other Circumstances removed my Suspicions in part. Since that Time we have on each Side drawn in our Centries, & there have been scattering Fires along the Line. This Evening

ing we have heard of three Captains who have been taken off by the Riffle Men & one killed by a Cannon Shot from Roxbury besides several Privates; but as the Intelligence is not direct, I only mention it as a Report which deserves Credit. The other happened at the Light House. A Number of Workmen having been sent down to repair it with a Guard of 22 Marines and a Subaltern, Major Tupper last Monday Morning about 2 'Clock landed there with about 300 Men, attack'd them killed the Officer, & 4 Privates; but being detained by the Tide, in his Return he was attack'd by several Boats, but he happily got through with the Loss of one Man killed & another wounded. The Remainder of the ministerial Troops, 3 of which are badly wounded, he brought off Prisoners, with 10 Tories all of whom are on their Way to Springfield Gaol. The Riffle Men in this Skirmish lost one Man who we hear is a Prisoner in Boston Gaol. The Enemy in Return endeavoured to surprize our Guard at Roxbury, but they being apprized of it by a Deserter, had Time to prepare for it; but by some Negligence or Misconduct in the Officer of the Guard, they burnt the George Tavern on the Neck; & have every day since been cannonading us from their Lines both at Roxbury & Charlestown, but with no other Effect than the Loss of two Men. On our Part except straggling Fires from the small Arms about the Lines which we endeavour to restrain, we have made little or no Return. Our Situation in the Article of Powder is much more alarming than I had the most distant Idea of. Having desired a Return to be made out on my Arrival, of the Ammunition, I found 303 $\frac{1}{2}$  Bbbl's of Powder mentioned as in the Store: But on ordering a new Supply of Cartridges yesterday, I was informed to my very great Astonishment, that there was no more than 36 Bbbls of the Massachusetts Store, which with the Stock of Rhode Island, New Hampshire & Connecticut makes 9937<sup>th</sup>--not more than 9 Rounds a Man: As there had been no Consumption of Powder since, that could in any Degree account for such a Deficiency, I was very particular in my Inquiries, & found that the Committee of Supplies, not being sufficiently acquainted with

with the Nature of a Return, or misapprehending my Request, sent in an Account of all the Ammunition, which had been collected by the Provinces so that the Report included not only what was in Hand, but what had been spent. Upon discovering this Mistake, I immediately went up to confer with the Speaker of the House of Representatives, upon some Measures to obtain a Supply from the neighbouring Townships, in such a Manner, as might prevent our Poverty being known, as it is a Secret of too great Consequence to be divulged in the general Court, some Individual of which might perhaps indiscreetly suffer it to escape him, so as to find its Way to the Enemy, the Consequences of which, are terrible even in Idea. I shall also write to the Governours of Rhode Island, & Connecticut, & the Committee of Safety in New Hampshire on this Subject, urging in the most forcible Terms, the Necessity of an immediate Supply if in their Power. I need not enlarge on our melancholy Situation; it is sufficient that the Existence of the Army, & the Salvation of the Country, depends upon something being done for our Relief both speedy and effectual, & that our Situation be kept a profound secret.

In the Inclosures (N<sup>o</sup> 2 & 3) I send the Allowance of Provisions &c, made by the Provinces of Connecticut & Massachusetts, the Mode & Quantity are different from what has fallen within my Experience, & I am confident must prove very wasteful, & expensive. If any alteration can be safely made, (which I much doubt) there might be a great Saving to the publick.

A Gentleman of my Family, assisted by a Deserter who has some Skill in Fortification, has by my Direction sketchd out two Draughts of our respective Lines, at Charles Town & Roxbury, which with the Explanations will convey some Idea of our Situation, and I hope prove acceptable to the Members of the honourable Congress. They are the Inclosures (N<sup>o</sup> 4 & 5).

Since I had the Honour of addressing you last, I have been applied to, by a Committee of the General Court for a Detach-  
ment

ment of the Army, to protect the Inhabitants of the Eastern Parts of this Province, from some apprehended Depredations on their Coasts. I could have wish'd to have complied with their Request; but after due Consideration, & consulting the General Officers, together with those Members of Congress, who are here, I thought it my Duty to excuse myself. The Application, & my Answer are the Inclosures N° 6 & 7,\* which I hope will be approved by the honourable Congress.

Since I began this Letter, the Original of which the Inclosure N° 8† is a Copy, fell into my Hands; as the Writer is a Person of some Note in Boston, & it contains some Advices of Importance not mentioned by others, I thought proper to forward it as I received it. By comparing the Handwriting with another Letter, it appears the Writer is one Belcher Noyes, a Person probably known to some of the Gentlemen Delegates from this Province; who can determine from his Principles & Character what Credit is due to him.

The Army is now formed into three grand Divisions, under the Command of the Generals Ward, Lee & Putnam. Each Division into two Brigades, consisting of about 6 Regiments each, commanded by Generals Thomas, & Spencer at Roxbury; Heath at Cambridge, Sullivan & Green at Winter Hill. By this you will please to observe, there is a Deficiency of one Brigadier General, occasioned by M<sup>r</sup> Pomroys not acting under his Commission, which I beg may be filled up as soon as possible. I observe the Hon<sup>bl</sup> Congress have also favoured me with the Appointment of three Brigade Majors; I presume they have, or intend to appoint the rest soon, as they cannot be unacquainted that one is necessary to each Brigade, & in a new raised Army it will be an Office of great Duty & Service.

General Gage has at length liberated the People of Boston, who land in Numbers at Chelsea every Day, the Terms on which the Passes are granted as to Money Effects & Provisions correspond with M<sup>r</sup> Noyes's Letter.

We have several Reports that General Gage is dismantling Castle William and bringing all the Cannon up to Town, but

\* Enclosure 7 is printed on p. 70.

† See p. 78.

upon

upon a very particular Inquiry, Accounts are so various that I cannot ascertain the Truth of it.

I am sorry to be under a Necessity of making such frequent Examples among the Officers when a Sense of Honour, & the Interest of their Country might be expected to make Punishment unnecessary. Since my last, Capt. Parker of Massachusetts for Frauds both in Pay, & Provisions, & Capt. Gardiner of Rhode Island for Cowardice in running away from his Guard on an Alarm, have been broke. As nothing can be more fatal to an Army, than Crimes of this kind, I am determined by every Motive of Reward & Punishment to prevent them in future.

On the first Inst<sup>t</sup> a Chief of the Cagnewaga Tribe, who lives about 6 Miles from Montreal, came in here, accompanied by a Col: Bayley of Cohoss. His Accounts of the Temper & Disposition of the Indians, are very favourable. He says they have been strongly sollicited by Gov. Carlton, to engage against us, but his Nation is totally averse: Threats, as well as Intreaties have been used without Effect. That the Canadians are well disposed to the English Colonies, and if any Expedition is meditated against Canada the Indians in that Quarter will give all their Assistance. I have endeavoured to cherish these favourable Dispositions, & have recommended to him to cultivate them on his Return. What I have said, I enforced with a Present which I understood would be agreeable to him, and as he is represented to be a Man of Weight, & Consequence in his own Tribe, I flatter myself his Visit will have a good Effect. His Accounts of Gov. Carltons Force & Situation at St Johns correspond with what we have already had from that Quarter.

The Accession of Georgia, to the Measures of the Congress is a happy Event & must give a sincere Pleasure to every Friend of America.

AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup>

We have Accounts this Morning of two Explosions at the Castle, so that its Destruction may now be supposed certain.

I have this Morning been alarmed with an Information that two Gentlemen from Philad<sup>a</sup> (M<sup>r</sup> Hitchbourn & Capt. White) with

with Letters for General Lee & myself have been taken by Capt. Ayscough at Rhode Island, the Letters intercepted & sent forward to Boston with the Bearers as Prisoners. That the Captain exulted much in the Discoveries he had made & my Informer who was also in the Boat but released understood them to be the Letters of Consequence. I have therefore dispatch'd the Express immediately back, tho' I had before resolved to detain him till Fessendens Return. I shall be anxious till I am relieved from the Suspence I am in as to the Contents of those Letters.

It is exceedingly unfortunate that Gentlemen should chuse to travel the only Road on which there is Danger. Let the Event of this be what it will I hope it will serve as a general Caution against trusting any Letters that Way in future.

Nothing of Consequence has occur'd in the Camp these two Days. The Inhabitants of Boston continue coming out at Chelsea, but under a new Restriction that no Men shall come out without special Licence—which is refused to all Mechanicks since the Tory Laborers were taken at the Light House.

*Sent by Alexander, the Express.*

[Read before Congress, Sept. 13.]\*

[ENCLOSURE NO. 1.†]

MAY 1775

The Order and Direction from the General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut, to their Commissary, for Issuing Provisions to the Troops, by them raised for the Defence of their Rights and Priviledges

$\frac{3}{4}$  lb Pork—or 1<sup>lb</sup> Beef  $\frac{7}{8}$  diem—Fish 3 times  $\frac{7}{8}$  Week.

1<sup>lb</sup> Bread—or Flour per diem.

3 pints Beer  $\frac{7}{8}$  diem or Spruce Sufficient—and Nine Gallons Molasses to a Company  $\frac{7}{8}$  Week.

$\frac{1}{2}$ pint Rice, or 1 pint Meal	}	$\frac{7}{8}$ Week
6 oz Butter		

3 pints Peas, or Beans

1 pint Milk  $\frac{7}{8}$  diem

5<sup>lb</sup> Candles to a Company  $\frac{7}{8}$  Week

Soap 24<sup>lb</sup>, or 4<sup>lb</sup> worth a Company  $\frac{7}{8}$  Week

Vinegar 2 Gallons  $\frac{7}{8}$  Company  $\frac{7}{8}$  Week

Chocolate 6<sup>lb</sup>  $\frac{7}{8}$  Company  $\frac{7}{8}$  Week

Sugar 3<sup>lb</sup>  $\frac{7}{8}$  Company  $\frac{7}{8}$  Week

1 Gill Rum  $\frac{7}{8}$  Man; on fatigued days only

Provision made for the Hospital at discretion of the Physicians and Surgeons

The Rations, will Cost when Pork is Issued 11<sup>d</sup>  $\frac{7}{8}$  diem; when fresh Beef 10<sup>d</sup>.

\* Congress had adjourned on August 1 to meet on September 5, but from the small attendance on that day, a further adjournment was made to September 13. [W. C. F.]

† The other enclosures mentioned in General Washington's letter will be found under their respective dates.—W. C. F.]

[ ENCLOSURE NO. 2.]

[ IN PROVINCIAL CONGRESS.]

WATERTOWN, June 10, 1775.

*Resolved*, that each Soldier in the Massachusetts Army, shall have the following Allowance  
per Day, viz:

Article 1—One Pound of Bread.

Article 2—Half a Pound of Beef, and half a Pound of Pork; and if Pork cannot be had, one pound and a quarter of Beef.

And one Day in Seven, they shall have one Pound and one Quarter of Salt Fish, instead of one Day's Allowance of Meat.

Article 3—One Pint of Milk, or if Milk cannot be had, one Gill of Rice.

Article 4—One Quart of Good Spruce or Malt Beer.

Article 5—One Gill of Pease or Beans, or other Sauce equivalent.

Article 6—Six Ounces of good Butter per Week.

Article 7—One pound of Good Common Soap, for Six Men per Week.

Article 8—Half a pint of Vinegar per Week, per Man, if it can be had.

JOSEPH WARREN, President

Attest SAMUEL FREEMAN Secry

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. I, f. 38.*

TO GOVERNOR COOKE.

CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE Aug. 4. 1775

SIR

I was yesterday favour'd with yours of the 31<sup>st</sup> July—We have yet no certain Account of the Fleet which sailed out of Boston the 25<sup>th</sup> but if our Conjecture & Information are just we may expect to hear of it every Hour. I am now Sir, in strict Confidence to acquaint you that our Necessities in the Article of Powder and Lead are so great as to require an immediate Supply: I must earnestly entreat you will fall upon some Measures to forward every Pound of each in the Colony which can possibly be spared: It is not within the Propriety or Safety of such a Correspondence to say what I might upon this Subject: It is sufficient that the Case calls loudly for the most strenuous Exertions of every Friend of his Country & does not admit of the least Delay—No Quantity however small is beneath Notice & should any arrive, I beg it may be forwarded as soon as possible: But a supply of this kind is so precarious not only from the Danger of the Enemy but the opp<sup>y</sup> of purchasing that I have revolved in my Mind every other possible Chance & listened to every Proposition on the Subject

Subject which could give the smallest Hope. Among others I have had one mentioned which has some Weight with me as well as the General Officers to whom I have proposed it. One Harris is lately come from Bermuda where there is a very considerable Magazine of Powder in a remote Part of the Island and the Inhabitants well disposed not only to our cause in General but to assist in this Enterprise in particular. We understand there are two armed Vessels in your Province commanded by Men of known Activity & Spirit. One of which it is proposed to despatch on this Errand with such other Assistance as may be requisite—Harris is to go along as the Conductor of the Enterprise & to avail ourselves of his Knowledge of the Island but without any Command.—I am very sensible that at first View the Prospect may appear hazardous & its success must depend on the Concurrence of many Circumstances, but we are in a Situation which requires us to run all Risques—No Danger is to be considered when put in Competition with the Magnitude of the Cause & the absolute Necessity we are under of increasing our Stock—Enterprizes which appear chimerical often prove successful from that very Circumstance. Common Sense & Prudence will suggest Vigilance & Care when the Danger is plain & obvious, but where little Danger is apprehended the more the Enemy is unprepared and consequently there is the faint Prospect of Success.

M<sup>r</sup> Brown has been mentioned to me as a very proper Person to consult upon this Occasion you will judge of the Propriety of communicating it to him in Part or the whole. And as soon as possible favour me with your Sentiments & the steps you may have taken to forward it. If no immediate and safe Opp<sup>y</sup> offers you will please to do it by Express. Should it be inconvenient to part with one of the armed Vessels, perhaps some other might be fitted out, or you could devise some other Mode of executing this Plan, so that in Case of a Disappointment the Vessel might proceed to some other Island to purchase. My last Letter from the Hon<sup>bl</sup> Continental Congress recommends my procuring from the Colonies of Connecticut & Rhode Island a Quantity of Tow Cloth for

for the Purpose of making Indian or hunting Shirts for the Men many of whom are very destitute of Clothing. A Pattern will be sent you & I must request you to give the necessary Directions throughout your Governm<sup>t</sup> that all the Cloth of the above kind may be bought up for this Use & suitable Persons set to work to make it up. As soon as any Number is made worth the Conveyance you will please to direct them to be forwarded It is designed as a Species of Uniform both cheap & convenient. We have had no Transactions in either Camp since my last but what are in the publick Papers & related with tolerable Accuracy. The Enemy still continue to strengthen their Lines & we have Reason to believe intend to bombard ours, with the Hopes of forcing us out of them. Our Poverty in Ammunition prevents our making a suitable Return.

Since writing the above Col: Porter has undertaken to assist in the Matter or to provide some suitable Person to accompany Harris to you who will communicate all Circumstances to you.

*Letters to Washington. Miscellanous. Vol. 6, f. 55.*

TO GOVERNOR TRUMBULL.

AUG. 4<sup>th</sup> 1775

SIR

I am favoured with yours of the 31<sup>st</sup> July informing me that the new Levies are coming forward with all expedition: As the Enemy has lain much longer inactive than I expected I hope they will arrive in Time to give us their assistance.

My last Letter from the Hon. Continental Congress recommends my procuring from the Colonies of Rhode Island & Connecticut a Quantity of Tow Cloth for the purpose of making Indian or hunting Shirts for the Men, many of whom are destitute of Cloathing. A Pattern is herewith sent you, & I must request you to give the necessary Directions throughout your Governm<sup>t</sup> That all the Cloth of the above kind may be bought up for this Use, & suitable Persons set to work to make it up:

As



0 007 243 234 4

As soon as any Number is made worth the Conveyance, you will please to direct them to be forwarded. It is designed as a Species of Uniform both cheap & convenient.

We have had no Transactions of any Consequence in either Camp since my last, but what are in the publick Papers & related with tolerable Accuracy I am now Sir, in strict Confidence to acquaint you that our Necessities in the Article of Powder & Lead are so great as to require an immediate Supply.

I most earnestly intreat you to fall upon some Measures to forward to us every Ounce in the Province which can possibly be spared. It is not within the Propriety of such a Correspondence to say what I might upon this subject: It is sufficient that the Case calls loudly for the warmest & most strenuous Exertions of every Friend to his Country and does not admit the least delay. No Quantity however small is beneath Notice & should any arrive I beg it may be forwarded to us as fast as possible.

The Express having left his Horse at Hartford is under a Necessity of going that Way.

*Sent per Alexander the Express.*

*Letters of Washington. Miscellaneous. Vol. 1, f. 36.*

TO THE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

CAMP AT CAMBRIDGE, Aug 4. 1775

GENT<sup>M</sup>

Your publick Capacity & the Hope that you will be both able & willing to give us some Assistance has led me to make this Application. The Situation of the Army as to Ammunition is by no Means what it ought to be. We have great Reason to expect the Enemy very soon intend to bombard our Lines, & our Stock of Powder is so small as in a great Degree to make our heavy Artillery useless I must therefore request you will exert yourselves to forward whatever can be spared from your Province as soon as possible The Necessity is great the Cause is of the last Importance. I am therefore perswaded



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